

THE STEEPLECHASE-JOCKEY PROBLEM By DARE WIGAN

COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Thursday

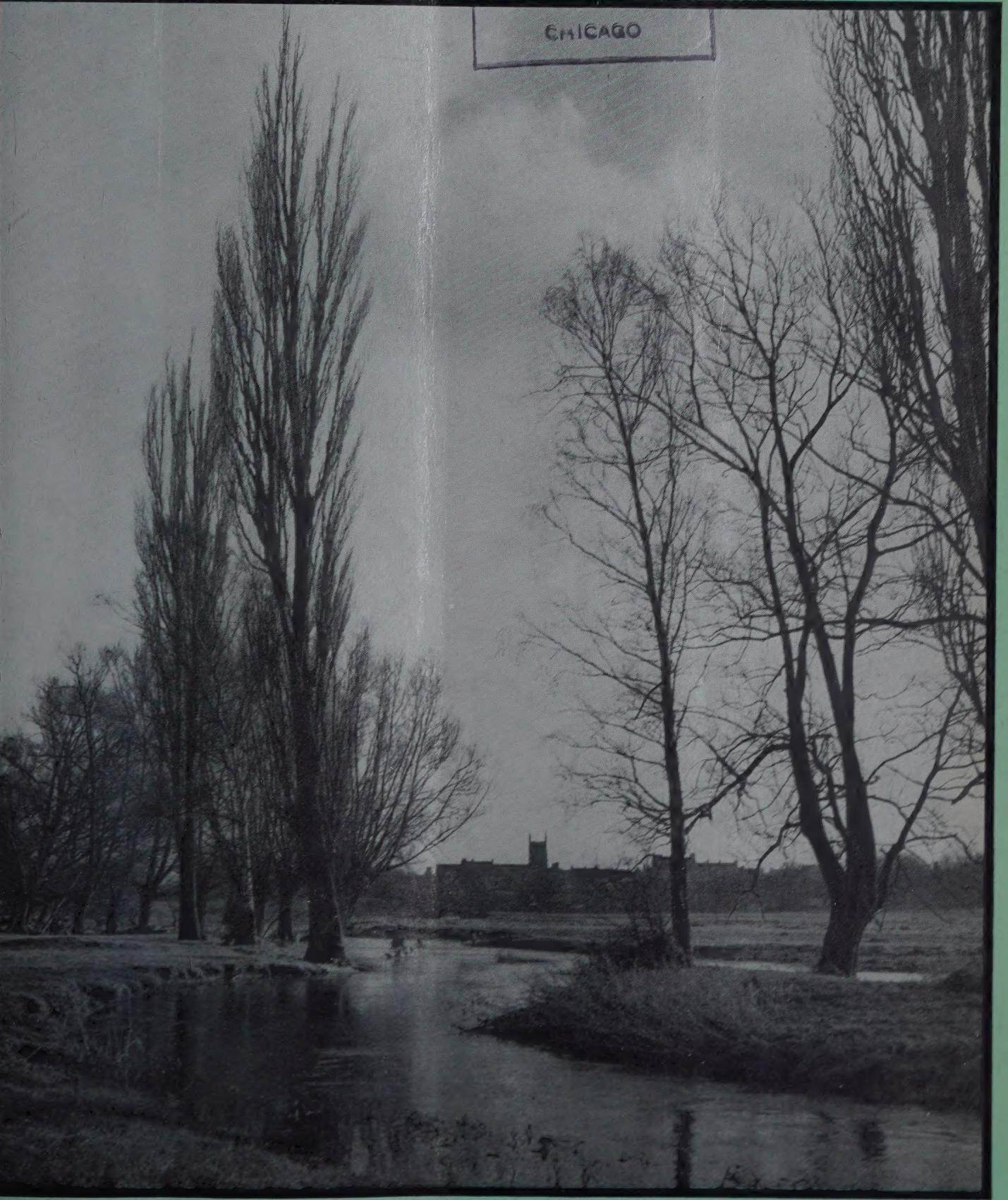
JANUARY 26, 1961

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FOR SALE

A PROPERTY IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE? Consult HETHERINGTON AND SECRET, F.A.I., Gerrards Cross (Tel. 3886-7-8); Beaconsfield (Tel. 249 and 1054).

ABINGDON-OXFORD AREA. Charming modern Det. House (2 receipts, 4 beds, usual offices), close shops and schools. Two garages; delightful gardens. £6,250. Details and of other Berks-Oxon props. from: LEONARD JAYNE & Co., 35, Oak St., Abingdon, Berks.

BADBY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (6 miles M.1 access)
Detached stone-built and tiled village house affording sitting room, dining room, kitchen, pantry, 3 bedrooms, 2 acre of garden, etc. Main water, electricity, drainage and sanitation all connected.
The property requires modernisation and is an ideal subject for a good class conversion. C148. Price: £2,500 or near offer.
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BERKSHIRE AND BORDER COUNTIES. For country houses of all classes.—Apply: Messrs. NICHOLAS, 1, Station Road, Reading (Tel. 64005).

COUNTRY RETREAT. Charming Residence. 7 rooms, old-world garden, beautiful country. Suitable writer. £4,500.—EYRE, Brockweir, nr. Chepstow.

DELIGHTFUL Modernised Cottage. 3 bedrooms, large living-room, kitchen, bathroom, double garage. Approximately 2 acre land. In old world village in Strlingshire. £3,500 or near offer. Particulars from: A. H. PARKER 24, Trevor Square, Knightsbridge, S.W.7.

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DEVON. Houses and Farms.—Apply: RICEARD, GREEN AND MICHELMORE, 82, Queen Street, Exeter.

DEVONSHIRE HOUSES LARGE AND SMALL.—Consult: GUY MICHELMORE AND Co., Norwich Union House, 12, Bedford Street, Exeter (Tel. 76464/5).

DEVON. Vicinity Salcombe Estuary. House of character in secluded position. 3 acres, 6 principal bed 4 rec., 2 bath. Double garage and outbuildings.—Box 3832.

EAST GRINSTEAD. Very well built brick and tiled Residence in quiet lane. 3 mins. walk from shops, facing south. 3 rec., 4 bed. Garage. All main services. Small attractive garden. £7,950.—Sole Agents: Messrs. P. J. MAY, East Grinstead (Tel. 315).

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IRELAND. BATTERSBY & Co., F.A.I. Est. 1815, Westmoreland Street, Dublin. Sporting Properties and Residential Farms.

IRELAND. Extensive register of all types of Agricultural, Sporting and Residential Properties.—JAMES H. NORTH & Co., Estate Agents (Est. 1829), 20, Piccadilly, London, W.1 REGEN 3759; & 7, Victoria Terrace, Hove 3. Head Office: 110, Grafton Street, Dublin

IRELAND. We have most of the good landed Estates, large and small Stud Farms, etc. Sole Agents for many.—HAMILTON & HAMILTON (ESTATES), LTD., Dublin.

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Extensive river frontage with private mooring and close to beach.

Well Designed Detached Bungalow, built 1959, in choice position. Spacious hall, large sitting room with dining recess, 3 bedrooms, tiled bathroom, fully fitted kitchen. Complete central heating and main services. Sun terrace. Garage and good garden. For Sale, complete with the furnishings at £5,450. Apply: PAYNE & Co., East Grinstead. (Tel. 636).

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Mawnan, Falmouth, offer:
SPLENDID BERKSHIRE, MAIN ROAD, FREE, FREEHOLD AND FULLY LICENSED HOTEL. Well equipped; in good order and condition. Ample scope to increase trade. Fishing in neighbourhood. Easy access to London, the West, and main road to South Coast. Excellent parking space. Highly recommended. Ref. 5092.

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Apply for details of above and excellent further selection to Agents above (Tel. Mawnan Smith 228).

WALTON-ON-THAMES, Ashley Park. Luxury flat in historic George IV residence. Lovely drawing room, 2 bedrooms, spacious modern kitchen, bathroom, etc. Fitted hall carpets. Garden. Lock-up garage. 25 mins. Waterloo. £4,700.—Box 3370.

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For Sale

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Consult: LESLIE BROOKS (Dip. Agric. Cantab.) 16, Upper Oldfield Park, Bath.

OVERSEAS

Estate Agents

SOUTH OF FRANCE: ITALY: BRITISH WEST INDIES. Properties, land and investments for sale.—Apply: MISHON, JOHNSON & KEEN, Estate Agents, Surveyors and Valuers, Architectural and Engineering Consultants, 43, Aldwick Road, Bognor Regis. Tel. Bognor Regis 3993/4.

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For Sale

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SHOOT WANTED

See also "Fishing and Shooting," page 209.

FIVE GENTLEMEN, safe and experienced shots, seek new shoot (previous estate having been sold). Would be prepared to keeper, stock, rear and build up first-class shoot on suitable terrain; shoot being rented or owner participating free of expense. Acreage 2-3,000 visualized. Hampshire, Berkshire, Surrey, Sussex area preferred. Replies treated in the strictest confidence.—Write Box 3381.

FOR SALE OR TO LET

TO BE SOLD OR LET on long lease: Cottage in Wiltshire. 1 mile from village. Requiring renovation. Full details.—MICHELMORE, LOVEYS & CARTER, Chartered Surveyors, Salisbury St., Mere, Wilts.

TO LET

See also "Holiday and Residential Accommodation," page 209

Furnished

ENCHANTING 2-bed. semi-det. Cotswold cottage to let. Fully furnished with garage. 7½ gns. Might consider selling.—Box 3369.

FARNHAM. Part Old Farmhouse in walled garden, 1 minute station, to let as furn. s.-c. flat. 2 bed., 1 rec., bath., kit. Tel. 7½ gns. Garage avail. Regret unsuitable children or animals.—BROOMLEAF HOUSE, Waverley Lane, Farnham, Tel. 5856.

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Situated West coast road, with most magnificent views over Weisdale. Fisherman's paradise. Might be ideal holiday for couple loving Shetland as we do.
Apply: PARKYN, The Manor House, North Rode, nr. Conington, Cheshire.

STAINES. To be let furnished. Delightful riverside Bungalow, 3 double bedrooms, dining room, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, storeroom, sun lounge and veranda. Hot water system. Fitted basins and refrigerator. Large garage. Beautiful lawn, orchard and kitchen garden. Private road entrance. Five minutes' walk from shopping centre. Lease by arrangement. £18.18.0 incl.—Box 3361.

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SELLING YOUR COUNTRY HOUSE? Consult F. L. MERCER & Co., the Specialist Agents, 66/68, Haymarket, S.W.1. Tel: WHitehall 7761. They will inspect, value and photograph suitable properties without charge. Usual commission terms. Please quote this magazine.

WANTED. Small Country Estate in South Bucks or East Berks.—Details: "W." c/o R. A. C. SIMMONDS, Estate Agent, Maidenhead. Tel. 666.

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CONTINUED ON PAGES 207-209

COUNTRY LIFE

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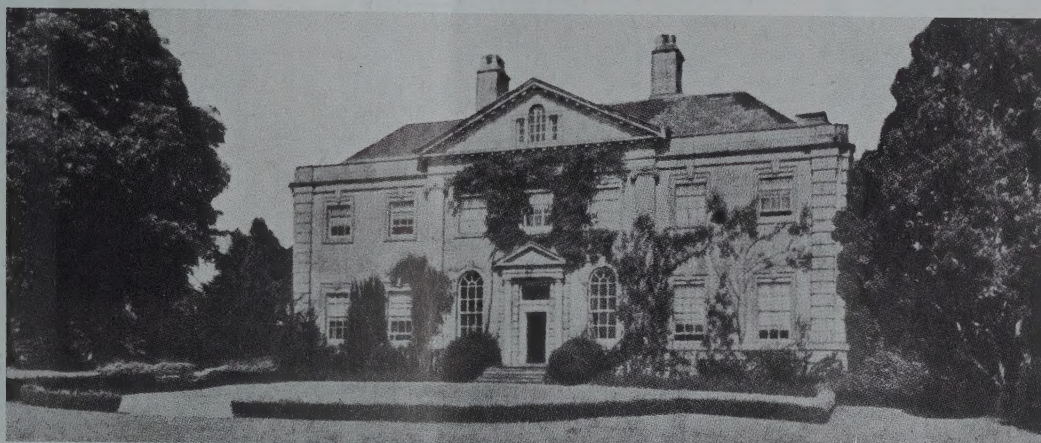
JANUARY 26, 1961

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By order of Executors.

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THE GEORGIAN CHARACTER HOUSE is built of brick and all the principal rooms face south.

Hall, 4 reception rooms, billiards room, 10 bedrooms in all (each with basin), 3 bathrooms.

Oil-fired central heating. All main services.

Timbered gardens and parkland. Walled kitchen garden. Woodlands of about 10 acres.

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Compact Home Farm with house, buildings and 102 acres.

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DETACHED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Hall, lounge, study, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen,
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Main electricity and water.

Garage, tennis lawn, stabling and outbuildings. 1 ACRE

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COUNTRY RESIDENCE OCCUPYING A FINE ELEVATED POSITION

3 reception rooms, cloaks, study, kitchen, 4-5 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main electricity and water.

Garden, paddock 4 ACRES

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Hall, cloakroom,
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Loft suitable for adaptation
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All main services.

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Farm buildings. Easy garden and paddocks with a pond.

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Containing
Cloakroom,
3 reception rooms,
5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms,
modern domestic offices.
DOUBLE GARAGE
Garden and orchard.
Staff bungalow
and cottage.

The Farmery and land
in all

24 ACRES

Valuable forest rights.



PRICE £22,000

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GOOD HOUSE WITH 5 BEDROOMS A DECIDED ADVANTAGE. APPRECIATIVE PRICE PAID**

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SITE FOR A PRIVATE HOUSE. BACK LAND WITH
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"Galleries, Wesdo, London"

1, STATION ROAD
READING
READING 54055 (4 lines)

OXFORD—HENLEY

Reading 15 miles. Good bus services to the surrounding towns. Situated in a quiet, small and unspoilt town on the South Oxon Chilterns.

Old World House of brick and flint. 2 reception rooms, kitchen, larder, 3 or 4 bedrooms, bathroom, w.c. Main water and electricity. Small walled garden.
PRICE £3,450 FREEHOLD

KINGSCLERE, HANTS

Occupying a pleasant rural position about 2½ miles north of Kingsclere and 6 miles from Newbury.

A particularly charming Country Cottage in an unspoilt position, over 300 years old, of brick with a hatched roof. 2 reception rooms, kitchen, scullery, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, w.c. Garden sheds. 2 acres including paddock. Main water and electricity.
PRICE £3,750 FREEHOLD

NEWBURY DISTRICT

About 6 miles from Newbury and handy for Reading and Basingstoke.

A Georgian detached Period Residence recently modernised. Hall, cloakroom, w.c., 2 large reception rooms, kitchen, 4 large bedrooms, bathroom, w.c. Main water and electricity. Central heating. Good garden.
PRICE £5,500 FREEHOLD

NICHOLAS (ESTABLISHED 1882)

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

In one of the loveliest positions in South Bucks. High up and commanding lovely views over the river to the wooded hills beyond. London 32 miles, High Wycombe 5½ miles, Maidenhead 5 miles.



DETACHED BUNGALOW RESIDENCE of unusual character, having verandah, lounge hall, 2 reception rooms, breakfast room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, w.c. 2 garages, garden, small paddock, ¾ ACRE. Main water and electricity.

4, ALBANY COURT YARD
PICCADILLY, W.1
REGENT 1184 (3 lines)

YATTENDON, BERKS

Amidst delightful wooded country surroundings by common land on the edge of the Berkshire Downs.

An excellent parcel of Agricultural Land extending to about 8¼ acres. Southern slope. Outline planning permission for 1 house, cottage and buildings. Main water and electricity available.
PRICE £3,000 FREEHOLD

HENLEY—TWYFORD (Between)

Situated off a quiet country road in a Thames-side village in completely rural surroundings, carrying a right of access to the River Thames with the right of mooring boats.

Choice Wooded Site of ½ Acre with outline planning permission for 2 HOUSES.
PRICE £3,500 FREEHOLD

SOUTH OXON CHILTERN

On the edge of the Chiltern Hills, within 7 miles of Reading.

A productive Agricultural Unit in a charming situation. About 10 Acres, including a little woodland. Lovely outbuildings. Main water and electricity.
PRICE £5,000 FREEHOLD



BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS

LONDON OXTEd HEREFORD WORCESTER YORK NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE HEXHAM EDINBURGH

Also CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA and SALISBURY, SOUTHERN RHODESIA

WOLDINGHAM, SURREY

On the North Downs, only 20 miles from London. Magnificent position in the midst of unspoilt Green Belt country and actually adjoining the nine-hole golf course.

COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARM AND DISTINCTION



Containing hall with cloakroom, inner lounge hall, 2 beautiful reception rooms with fine paneling and beams.

Compact well-arranged domestic quarters.

4 main bedrooms with 2 bathrooms and 3 other bedrooms as staff quarters or flat.

Janitor oil-fired central heating plant.

2 GARAGES

Lovely landscaped gardens.

ABOUT 2¼ ACRES. PRICE £12,000 FREEHOLD

Details from BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, Oxted, Surrey (Tel. 2375).

HAMPSHIRE

In a village setting, within easy reach of main line station (Waterloo 1 hour).

WELL-PLANNED AND SPACIOUS FAMILY HOUSE

Entrance hall, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, 5-6 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, fitted darkroom, staff sitting room.

GARAGE

Central heating.

THE GARDEN is secluded and fully enclosed, perfect for children. Lawns and rosebeds. Hard tennis court. Matured trees, pink chestnuts.



ABOUT 2 ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Details from West End Office (Tel. GRO. 6611). (Ref. WJNS/3377).

URGENTLY REQUIRED

100 TO 250 ACRES FIRST CLASS FEEDING LAND
FOR PEDIGREE BEEF CATTLE

WITH SMALL FARMHOUSE, 2 COTTAGES, GOOD FOLD YARD, AND RANGE OF BUILDINGS

LOCALITY: ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM CONSIDERED

except in the West and South-West.

THE DISTRICT MUST ENJOY A BRACING CLIMATE

Owners and Agents are invited to send particulars in confidence to
BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, St. Helen's Square, York.

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED

HEREFORDSHIRE

IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT

Only 10 miles from the City of Hereford.

130 ACRE STOCK FARM

and

100 ACRE STOCK FARM

Both let to substantial tenants at low rents capable of revision.

THE FARMS ADJOIN AND FORM A SMALL RING FENCE ESTATE

Eminently suitable for Estate Duty purposes or for capital appreciation. The properties require modernisation.

FOR SALE IN ONE LOT AT £19,000 FREEHOLD
OR £8,250 AND £11,000 SEPARATELY

Full details from the Agents:

BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS,

Thorpe House, Broad Street, Hereford (Tel. 6202).

Head Office: 1, Buckingham Palace Road, Westminster, S.W.1. West End Office: 129, Mount Street, Mayfair, W.1. Branches at Thorpe House, Broad Street, Hereford; 7, The Tything, Worcester; St. Helen's Square, York; 30, Market Street, Newcastle upon Tyne; 15, Priestpopple, Hexham; 5, Glenfinlas Street, Edinburgh; and Oxted, Surrey.

Telephone:
HYDe Park 8222
(20 lines)

HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

Telegrams:
"Solanlet, Piccy,
London"

NEAR CHARTERHOUSE, GODALMING

and only 4½ miles from Guildford, Surrey.

CHOICE MODERN RESIDENCE built of Bargate stone and with a tiled roof.



Oak-panelled hall,
3 reception rooms,
cloakroom, 4 bedrooms
(3 with basins),
model offices,
luxury bathroom.

Oil-fired central heating.
Main electricity and water.

**Exceptionally
well appointed
throughout.**

Detached garage.

Garden playground.

Charming grounds with lawn, herbaceous borders, fruit trees, kitchen garden, etc.

In all about 1 ACRE

FREEHOLD FOR SALE. HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.70567)

ON EDGE OF SOUTH DOWNS

with superb views to Cissbury and Chanctonbury Rings.

*High position in private road, almost adjoining National Trust Land.
About 3 miles from sea and short walk from local shops and bus route.*



Lounge hall,
2 good reception rooms,
breakfast room and large
well-fitted kitchen,
4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.
**SMALL ATTACHED
BUNGALOW ANNEXE**
of 2 rooms.
DETACHED STUDIO
with North light.
Polished oak floors and
doors throughout.
Co.'s services.
2 GARAGES
Nicely displayed and
easily-maintained gardens.

FREEHOLD £10,750

Further details from:

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.39193a)

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL

ADJACENT TO THE FAMOUS GOLF COURSE AND HEATH

SUPERBLY PLANNED SMALL LUXURY RESIDENCE

**Of advanced design and
entirely labour-saving.**

4 bedrooms
(all with fitted wardrobes),
luxury bathroom,
3 reception rooms,
model kitchen.

Underfloor electric heating.

Main services.

GARAGE

Mainly walled garden of

ABOUT 1 ACRE

**FREEHOLD
FOR SALE**



**Strongly recommended to the individualist who seeks
a residence of unique design.**

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.70559)

LEATHERHEAD

*Close to well known golf course and in lovely rural surroundings.
Only 20 miles from London.*

**WITH FINE VIEWS OVER UNDULATING
WELL WOODED NORTH DOWNLANDS**

**Superior Freehold
Country Residence on
an exclusive openly
developed golfing estate.**
Well planned and superbly
appointed.

3 reception rooms,
"English Rose" kitchen,
4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.
Comprehensive gas-fired
central heating.

Main electricity and gas.

2 GARAGES

Attractive grounds

ABOUT 1½ ACRES



TO BE SOLD WITH POSSESSION

Highly recommended by the Sole Agents:

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S66652)

UNDER 30 MINUTES FROM TOWN AND CLOSE TO STATION

"LONG MEADOW," BICKLEY, KENT

BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED, WELL DESIGNED AND CONVENIENTLY SITUATED



COUNTRY-STYLE MODERN RESIDENCE

Principal suite of bedroom, dressing room
and bathroom, 4 other bedrooms, second
bathroom, drawing room, study, dining room,
small den or library, up-to-date kitchen, etc.,
playroom and day nursery.

AIR DUCT CENTRAL HEATING

Double garage. Secluded parklike grounds of

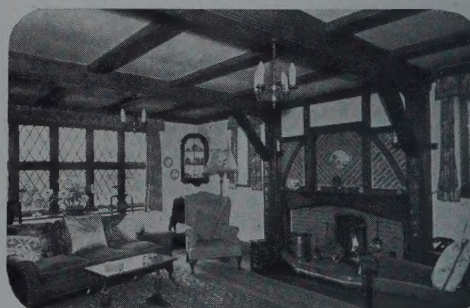
ABOUT 1¼ ACRES

Freehold. Vacant Possession

**FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY
AUCTION IN THE SPRING, 1961**

Solicitors: Messrs. McKENNA & CO., 12, Whitehall, S.W.1.

*Brochure from the Joint Auctioneers: Messrs. BAXTER, PAYNE & LEPPER, 19, East Street, Bromley (Tel. Ravensbourne 2234) and branches, and
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.*



SUSSEX COAST

With frontage and gate on to private beach.

CHOICE and EXCEPTIONALLY well appointed FREEHOLD RESIDENCE



With lovely sea views.
Hall, cloakroom, 2 fine
reception, cocktail and sun
lounges, excellent offices,
5 principal bedrooms,
2 bathrooms.

STAFF FLAT of
2 bedrooms and bathroom.

Oak floors and joinery.

The whole in most
admirable order.

Central heating.

Main services.

GARAGE 4 CARS

**BEAUTIFUL GARDEN, IN ALL ABOUT ¾ ACRE
FREEHOLD FOR SALE**

Most highly recommended.

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.49246)

SURREY—SUSSEX BORDER

*Ideal country position in unspoilt and protected surroundings.
Only 27 miles from London.*

IDEAL FOR CITY MAN WITH HUNTING OR COUNTRY INTERESTS

**Unique and delightfully
modernised small
17th-century
Farmhouse with stables
and paddocks.**

2-3 reception rooms,
3-4 bedrooms,
2 bathrooms,
modern kitchen.

Main services.

Barn/studio.

2 GARAGES

2 OR 4 LOOSE BOXES

Hay and fodder stores.

Pretty garden and

4 paddocks well fenced and

watered, in all 7 ACRES



FREEHOLD PRICE £9,500

Unhesitatingly recommended.

Sole Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.70546)

HYDE PARK
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

ESTABLISHED 1882

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET
PICCADILLY, W.1

12 MILES WEST OF OXFORD

In a lovely old village about a mile from a station.

A Charming Small House of Character

Recently reconstructed from 3 old cottages.

Hall with cloakroom, 2 reception, 3 bedrooms, modern bathroom and kitchen.

Oil-fired central heating. Main electricity and water.

Double garage and matured partly walled garden.

Freehold only £5,950

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21854)

KENT AND SUSSEX BORDER

Situate in a village about 12 miles from Tunbridge Wells.

AN ATTRACTIVE OLD HOUSE

Modernised and having: Hall, 3 reception rooms, maid's room and kitchen, 8 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Central heating. All main services.

GARAGE, STABLING

Well-timbered, sheltered garden of ABOUT 1 ACRE
FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21869)

8 MILES EAST OF SEVENOAKS

Situate some 500 ft. above sea level within 5 minutes of a village and station (London 45 minutes)

A CHARMING SMALL MODERN HOUSE

Built of Kentish ragstone and brick with a tiled roof.
Hall, 2 reception, cloakroom, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom.

All main services. Garage.

Matured garden of 1/3 ACRE.

Price just substantially reduced

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21861)

HIGH UP IN BUCKS

3 miles Amersham, 10 miles High Wycombe, 26 miles London.

A WELL-BUILT COUNTRY HOUSE

in a splendid position overlooking Green Belt land.
2 reception rooms, cloakroom, 4 double bedrooms, bathroom.

Main Services. Central heating throughout

Garage and large but inexpensive garden.

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,750

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21890)

COUNTRY HOUSE WANTED

SUFFOLK (NEAR IPSWICH, WOODBRIDGE OR STOWMARKET) OR ESSEX (WITHIN 10 MILES RADIUS OF COLCHESTER)

A HOUSE OF SOME CHARACTER—NOTHING POST-WAR

having 4-5 bedrooms, 2-3 reception rooms, 1-2 bathrooms.
Central heating if possible, a good garage and some outbuildings an advantage.

Good garden with paddock or piece of rough land.

PRICE UP TO £8,000

Usual commission required. (Reference R.)

3, MOUNT STREET
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor
1032-33-34

IN AN ELEVATED POSITION ABOVE THE EXE VALLEY

4 miles Tiverton, 11 miles Exeter.

ATTRACTIVE OLD-WORLD STYLE COTTAGE RESIDENCE

2 large bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen. Main services. Electric central heating. Garden.

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,000 to include all new furniture, carpets and effects.

SALMON AND TROUT FISHING AVAILABLE IN THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY

WEST SUSSEX. VIEWS TO SOUTH DOWNS

3 miles Pulborough, 1 hour London.

MODERN COTTAGE-STYLE HOUSE pleasantly situated on a private exclusive estate.

Hall, cloakroom, large lounge with dining recess, kitchen/breakfast room luxuriously fitted, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.
Central heating. Main services. Double garage. Grounds of about 2 1/2 ACRES. FREEHOLD £7,225 inclusive of many expensive fittings.

DEVON. CREDITON AND TIVERTON

9 miles equidistant, beautifully sited, full south aspect, glorious panoramic views.

A CHARMING REGENCY HOUSE

7 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Central heating. Main water and electricity. Garage Cottage.
20 ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE. Also adjoining ATTESTED DAIRY AND STOCK-RAISING FARM OF 115 ACRES with farmhouse, 2 cottages, excellent farm buildings. Highly productive land, mainly rich feeding pastures and leys.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE. VACANT POSSESSION

WANTED FOR CLIENTS

RESIDENTIAL DAIRY FARM OF 150/200 ACRES

IN HEREFORDSHIRE, MONMOUTH, GLOS., SOMERSET, DORSET, OR WILTS

PERIOD HOUSE AND GOOD BUILDINGS ESSENTIAL. Two cottages preferred. Possession by Michaelmas next. PRICE TO £30,000 or more for suitable property.

ROEHAMPTON, WIMBLEDON OR PUTNEY

MEDIUM-SIZED DETACHED HOUSE. 4/5 bedrooms, etc. Garage. Central heating preferred. HOUSE OF VICTORIAN ERA with large rooms not objected to. PRICE £12,000/£15,000. In no immediate hurry for possession.

3 MILES
NORTH OF BUCKINGHAMVERY PICTURESQUE 17th-CENTURY COTTAGE
with typical period features, in pleasant village setting overlooking farmlands. 3 bedrooms (basins in 2), bathroom, 2 reception. Main services. Detached studio, ornamental flower garden, lawn, fruit trees, etc.

FREEHOLD £3,250

GROsvenor
2861

TRESIDDER & CO.

77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams :
"Cornishmen (Audley), London"

NORTH CORNWALL

5 miles from the coast. Bodmin 6 1/2 miles.

ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE, BUILT OF GRANITE AND RECENTLY THE SUBJECT OF A LARGE EXPENDITURE

8 bed and dressing rooms, attics, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, gun room, fine gallery hall (41 ft. by 25 ft.) with parquet floor, kitchen, maid's sitting room, etc. Main electricity. Good water supply. Modern drainage. Garage for 4 cars. LODGE, Stabling. Useful outbuildings. THE GARDEN forms an appropriate setting for the house and is well stocked with choice flowering trees and shrubs. In addition there are several enclosures of useful pasture land.

IN ALL ABOUT 32 ACRES. MODERATE PRICE FREEHOLD

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (29551)

BRIXHAM, DEVON

5 minutes walk from the town. On the southern extremity of Torbay. Easy reach Dartmouth and Torbay.

SOUNDLY BUILT DETACHED RESIDENCE IN GOOD ORDER and affording about 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, studio or games room, 3 reception rooms, hall.

At present arranged as 2 flats and caretaker's flat but easily reinstated if desired.

Main electricity, gas, water and drainage.

Small garden, easily maintained and affording seclusion. Space for garage.

PRICE 5,000 GUINEAS FREEHOLD

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (32590)

REQUIRED FOR SPECIAL CLIENTS

A HOUSE OF ARCHITECTURAL MERIT

Preferably built between 1700 and 1780.

IN DORSET, HAMPSHIRE, WILTSHIRE OR SURREY

The accommodation must provide 7-12 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4-5 reception rooms.

CONDITION IMMATERIAL

One or two cottages an advantage and land extending from

5 to 100 ACRES

A COUNTRY HOUSE OF SOME CHARACTER

Surrey/Sussex border. In the triangle Guildford, Reigate, Horsham, Guildford.

Either old or a good modern replica. 4/5 bedrooms, 2-3 reception rooms.

Main electricity and water.

Garage. Inexpensive grounds, paddock (an essential), say, 5-20 ACRES

Owners, their Solicitors or Agents, please send details of likely property with, if possible,

a photograph, to the retained Agents:

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1.

(NO COMMISSION REQUIRED)

16, ARCADE STREET
IPSWICH
Ipswich 54352

WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1
MAYfair 5411

WEST SUFFOLK

5 miles from the popular village of Laxenham.



LADY'S CHARMING IMMACULATE PERIOD COTTAGE in a village. Fully modernised, small and with great attraction. Hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom and w.c., 2 bedrooms, landing bedroom. Main electricity/water. Picture garden, terraced down to stream.

PRICE FREEHOLD £2,900.

Recommended by Ipswich Office.

TWO SEASIDE HOUSES

With direct access to a sandy beach in a charming cove on the south coast of the Isle of Wight.

A picturesque Thatched Cottage with 2 reception, 5 bedrooms (all with basins), bathroom. Main services. garden and garage.

A well-built stone Family House, lounge with picture window, living room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms (2 with basins), bathroom. Main services. Garden and garage.

Separate Self-contained Flat, 2 rooms, kitchen and bathroom. Furniture optional.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD, with vacant possession, either privately now or AUCTION LATER

Strongly recommended by Sole Agents, Woodcocks, London.

CORNISH COAST

Between St. Ives and Truro, high lying.

GENTLEMAN'S FARMING ESTATE 54 ACRES
early land; stone house, hall, cloaks, 3 sitting, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Very fine garden.

Main services. Central heating.

Cowsheds for 27, loose boxes, etc. Cottage.

FREEHOLD £12,000. POSSESSION

Much recommended. Apply: London Office.

IPSWICH CENTRE 3 MILES

A unique property with many period features.



A FINE WILLIAM AND MARY RESIDENCE, facing South and having real character, panelled rooms and fine staircase. Hall, drawing room, morning room, dining room, cloakroom, domestic quarters, 5 bedrooms (basins), 2 bathrooms, 3 attic rooms. Excellent range of buildings including garage and stables. Matured gardens including walled rose garden and tennis lawn. 1 1/2 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,250

Highly recommended by Ipswich Office.

GROSVENOR 1553
(5 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

ESTABLISHED 1778
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.113, Hobart Place,
Eaton Square,
5, West Halkin Street,
Belgrave Square,
London, S.W.1.

LOVELY COUNTRY 5 MILES SEVENOAKS

 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile village. Near two first-class golf courses.

PICTURESQUE TUDOR FARMHOUSE

Modernised and redecorated, retaining interesting period features.

6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,
4 reception rooms.

Main water and electricity.

Central heating.

STABLING AND

GARAGE BLOCK

Fine oak-framed

tithe barn.

Stone-built east house,
suitable conversion to
cottage.

DELIGHTFUL

GROUNDS

TENNIS LAWN

ORCHARD/PADDOCK

WOODLAND

2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ACRES. FOR SALE FREEHOLDRecommended by Joint Agents: Messrs. PRALL & PRALL, 76, Spital Street,
Dartford, Kent (Tel. 20214)
and GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. R.A.W. (A.2966).

NORTH CORNWALL

Lovely secluded position overlooking Camel River, 1 mile Wadebridge.

SMALL HISTORICAL MANOR HOUSE
IN WELL-TIMBERED OLD GROUNDSThe subject of a large
expenditure on
modernisation.7 bed. and dressing rooms,
2 bath., charming lounge
hall, 2 rec. and billiards
room. Second floor staff
flat, 2 rooms and bath.

Main electricity.

Electrically pumped water.

Garages 3-4 cars.

Newly converted flat.

PRODUCTIVE

MARKET GARDEN

supplying local markets.

1,700 sq. ft. glass, Dutch

lights and frames.

8-ACRE PADDOCK

£12,000 FREEHOLD WITH 18 ACRES AND CERTAIN EQUIPMENT

Inspected and recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1.
R.A.W. (A.7567).

COUNTRY PROPERTIES WANTED. NO COMMISSION REQUIRED

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS are retained to purchase on behalf of clients PROPERTIES in accordance with the following requirements:

A SMALL BUT FIRST-CLASS RESIDENCE

5 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, etc. with 50-100 ACRES of land. In BERKSHIRE,
daily reach of London. Price no object within reasonable limits for today.

Existing house would be renovated or demolished and rebuilt.

(Ref. "S").

ANY GOOD AREA, 50-80 MILES WEST OR SOUTH-WEST
OF LONDON

CHARACTER HOUSE. 8-12 bedrooms, 3-4 reception rooms, 3-4 bathrooms.

Together with HOME FARM 50-200 ACRES

(Ref. "A.H.").

Details in first instance to retained Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.

AGRICULTURAL ESTATE—APPROX. £100,000

Comprising

WELL-LET FARMS IN HEYTHROP, BEAUFORT COUNTRY OR
BORDERS, EITHER WITH OR WITHOUT A PERIOD RESIDENCE
of 5-6 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, etc. Will renovate or consider large mansion to
demolish and rebuild or will purchase residence nearby separately.

POSSESSION OF RESIDENCE NOT ESSENTIAL FOR 2 YEARS

The Estate is required for occupation and investment and there is no
question of resale or speculation in purchaser's lifetime.

Strict confidence preferred by purchaser.

(Ref. "R.A.W.").

43, ST. JAMES'S PLACE,
ST. JAMES' STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1
(Tel. HYDe Park 6141)MELLERSH & HARDING
LONDON
IN CONJUNCTION WITH
COWARD, JAMES & CO.
BATH14, NEW BOND STREET,
BATH
(Tel. 3150, 3584, 4268 and 61360)QUEEN CITY OF THE WEST
IN THE LOVELIEST PART OF BATH SPA
GENTLEMAN'S DETACHED FREEHOLD PERIOD RESIDENCEClose Royal Victoria Park and glorious
Botanical Gardens. Truly a Town Residence
with all the pleasure of the country.Circular entrance drive with Detached
Lodge.

OUTER AND INNER HALLS

GENTLEMAN'S CLOAKROOM

4 RECEPTION ROOMS

5 PRINCIPAL AND 2 SECONDARY

BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS

LEVEL DOMESTIC OFFICES

VIRTUALLY ALL ON 2 FLOORS

All main services including central heating.

Easily maintained picturesque gardens and

grounds of approximately 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRES

GARAGES FOR 3



VACANT POSSESSION OF THE WHOLE UPON COMPLETION OF THE PURCHASE

ALBION CHAMBERS
KING STREET
GLOUCESTER

BRUTON, KNOWLES & CO.

Tel. 21267
(4 lines)GLOUCESTERSHIRE—WORCESTERSHIRE BORDER
AN ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL COUNTRY PROPERTYSited in an elevated position about 3 miles from Tewkesbury, commanding unspoilt
views over the Severn Vale.Entrance hall, spacious
sitting room, dining room,
kitchen, bathroom,
4 bedrooms.

2 GARAGES

Main electricity and water.

Pleasant and easily
maintained gardens,
well-stocked orchard,
open woodland containing
useful timber, in all just
under 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRESVACANT
POSSESSION
on completion.The property has possibilities for development as a smallholding, poultry, pigs or for
other purposes and the deep-litter houses at present on the property can be taken at
valuation, if required.
£5,500 OR OFFER

Particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES & Co., as above. (M.405)

BETWEEN BURFORD AND LECHLADE

In a charming small village near the borders of Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Berkshire
and Oxfordshire.

MODERNISED STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE

Part 17th and part 18th century. At present divided into 2 ATTRACTIVE
SMALL HOUSES but could easily be restored to a single residence.With 3 reception, cloakroom, kitchen with Aga and Agamatic, 6 bedrooms,
2 bathrooms, etc.

2 garages. 1 ACRE

Main electricity and water. Central heating.

VACANT POSSESSION

PRICE £6,500 FREEHOLD

ALSO AN ADJACENT PADDOCK, 1 $\frac{1}{3}$ ACRESin extent, with outline planning consent for the erection of not more than
2 detached residences.

Main electricity and water.

PRICE £1,500 FREEHOLD

Particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES & Co., as above. (K.116)

5, MOUNT STREET
LONDON, W.1
GROsvenor
5131 (8 lines)

CURTIS & HENSON

ESTABLISHED 1875

and at
21, HORSEFAIR
BANBURY, OXON
Tel. 3295-7

By direction of Rear-Admiral B. C. Durant, D.S.O., D.S.C.

HAMPSHIRE

4 miles Alton, 8 miles Petersfield.

AN EXCEPTIONAL SMALL ESTATE OCCUPYING UNDOUBTEDLY ONE OF THE FINEST SITES IN THE COUNTY

With magnificent views of the surrounding countryside and standing in its own parkland.

A UNIQUE REGENCY PERIOD HOUSE

WITH INTERIOR PLAN IN GEORGIAN
TASTE

4-5 reception rooms, 5-6 principal bedrooms,
2 dressing rooms, 3 secondary bedrooms, 5 bathrooms.

STAFF FLAT

and compact domestic offices.



Further details from the Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, London.

Central heating.
Mains water and electricity.
Modern drainage.

Well-kept, formal and walled kitchen gardens.

LODGE AND 2 COTTAGES

Small farmery.

GARAGE FOR 6. STABLING

HARD AND GRASS TENNIS COURTS

ABOUT 75 ACRES IN ALL

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH
VACANT POSSESSION
(except for 11 acres.)

130, MOUNT STREET
LONDON, W.1

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS

MAYfair
0023-4

URGENTLY REQUIRED

R. C. KNIGHT & SONS HAVE BEEN RETAINED TO PURCHASE

A GEORGIAN OR QUEEN ANNE COUNTRY HOUSE

(other periods considered provided no low ceilings or beams).

WITH 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 8 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, 3 OR MORE
BATHROOMS, ETC.

SUFFICIENT LAND FOR SECLUSION, SAY UP TO 20 ACRES

IN KENT, SURREY OR SUSSEX

RURAL AND UNSPOILT POSITION ESSENTIAL but within about 6 miles of
main line station affording travel to London within a maximum of 75 minutes.

Will Owners, Solicitors or Agents, please send details of suitable properties to the
Purchaser's Agents, as above.

WHO DO NOT REQUIRE COMMISSION FROM THE VENDOR

AND AT STOWMARKET, NORWICH AND HOLT. ALSO AT YEOVIL (IN ASSOCIATION WITH MESSRS. PALMER, SNELL & CO.)

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

IDEAL FOR INSTITUTIONAL PURPOSES. Mansion in 30 ACRES. 18 bedrooms, 5 reception rooms, etc. Ref. 5192.

HERTFORDSHIRE

CHARMING PERIOD COTTAGE easy reach of town. 4 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms. 7 ACRES. Swimming pool, etc. Ref. 5311

NORFOLK

RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER. 6-7 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, etc. Cottage. 6½ ACRES. Ref. 4774

SOMERSET

MODERN HOUSE NEAR WINSOMBE. 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms. ½ ACRE. Outbuildings. £6,500. Ref. 5276

For details of the above and other properties apply:
R. C. KNIGHT & SONS, 130, Mount Street, London, W.1.

42 BELL STREET

HIBBERT & CO.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES 466

RUPERTS CLOSE HENLEY-ON-THAMES

Paddington 50 minutes

Designed in the Georgian tradition this

SMALL TOWN HOUSE

is extremely well situated, beautifully appointed and most efficiently heated.

THE SPACIOUS DRAWING ROOM

has an open fireplace with a pine surround and a wood block floor,

THE KITCHEN IS GENEROUSLY FITTED

THE TWO BATHROOMS AND DOWNSTAIRS CLOAKROOM

are well appointed and one of the three bedrooms has its own covered balcony.

INTEGRAL GARAGE. SMALL GARDEN

Strongly recommended by the Sole Selling Agents at:

£6,500 FREEHOLD



104-105 KINGS ROAD
BRENTWOOD, ESSEX
Tel. Brentwood 3817 (4 lines)

BAIRSTOW, EVES & SON

ESTABLISHED 1899
FOR ESSEX COUNTRY PROPERTIES

HUTTON ROAD
SHENFIELD, ESSEX
Tel. Brentwood 4866 (4 lines)

ESSEX

SIBLE HEDINGHAM

Chelmsford 13 miles, Halstead 3 miles.

A CHARMING GEORGIAN/QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE

Set in the heart of rural Essex, with the local hunt and golfing facilities nearby.



5 bedrooms, nursery, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, drawing room, dining room, study, Oak-beamed breakfast room.

Kitchen, cloakroom with shower section, w.c., laundry room and wine cellar.

FULL OIL-FIRED CENTRAL HEATING

The property enjoys peace and seclusion with unrestricted views to front and rear over undulating countryside. The grounds are extensive with a tennis court, greenhouse, spinney and sunken garden.

In all the grounds extend to 1½ ACRES
FREEHOLD £7,500 FOR QUICK SALE

URGENTLY REQUIRED

ANY AREA IN ESSEX TO THE SUFFOLK BORDER

FIRST-CLASS PERIOD PROPERTY OR FARMHOUSE

5-6 bedrooms, well-proportioned rooms, fine fireplaces, lofty ceilings.

Land from 15-25 Acres, with stabling facilities and paddock.

£12,000 PLUS would be paid for a suitable residence.

Particulars please, with photographs if possible, to:

BAIRSTOW, EVES & SON, Kings Road, Brentwood, Essex.

23, MOUNT STREET
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

WILSON & CO.

GROSVENOR
1441

HERTS. SUPERB COUNTRY POSITION. 12 miles London

850 ft. up adjoining Green Belt farmland. Hadley Wood station 5 minutes' walk (26 minutes London).
EXCELLENT RIDING FACILITIES WITH FIRST-CLASS STABLING



MODERN ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSE SUPERBLY SITED WITH LOVELY RURAL VIEWS
Hall, 3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, breakfast room and tiled kitchen. All main services. Full central heating. 2 garages, substantial MODERN STABLING BLOCK of 5 loose boxes, 2 barns, 2 greenhouses, attractive well-stocked landscape gardens.

About $\frac{3}{4}$ ACRE. FREEHOLD. Reasonable price fixed, Vendor having purchased another property. Tenancy of additional 26 ACRES adjoining could probably be taken over if required.

SUSSEX, NEAR LEWES IN A UNIQUE DOWNLAND SETTING



BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED PERIOD HOUSE

Perfectly secluded, lovely rural views.
Easy reach Brighton and Eastbourne.

3 reception, 8 main bed and dressing rooms, 5 bath., separate flat. Mains, central heating. 2 cottages, garage block, stabling with flat over, matured walled gardens.

FREEHOLD WITH OVER 3 ACRES

WINCHESTER
FLEET, ALTON
FARNBOROUGH

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

HARTLEY WINTNEY
ALDERSHOT, ALRESFORD
BASINGSTOKE

BERKSHIRE

In a pleasant situation close to village shops and 3 miles town and main line station.



ATTRACTIVE BUNGALOW RESIDENCE with oil-fired central heating. Hall, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge and well-equipped kitchen. Main electricity and water. GARAGE. Well laid out garden.

FREEHOLD £3,750

Hartley Wintney Office. (Tel. 233).

HARTLEY WINTNEY

In a quiet and choice situation of this favourite North Hampshire village within easy walking reach of the shopping centre and about 2 miles station (Waterloo 1 hour.)

COMPACT MODERN RESIDENCE

having

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM

HALL, CLOAKROOM

DINING ROOM

LOUNGE 20 ft. 4 in. by 12 ft.

AND KITCHEN

All main services.

GARAGE AND GARDEN

FREEHOLD £5,075

Hartley Wintney Office (Tel. 233).

SOUTH HAMPSHIRE

Enjoying an exceptionally pleasant rural position near the crest of the Downs with splendid views.



A Superior Detached Single-Storey Residence. Lounge with dining area. Principal bedroom suite, 2 other bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and well fitted kitchen.

Central heating throughout. Main services.

DOUBLE GARAGE. Garden and Paddock 2.6 ACRES

PRICE £8,500 FREEHOLD

Walcote Chambers, Winchester. (Tel. 3388).

Tel.
NEWBURY 2961 (3 lines)

A. W. NEATE & SONS

NEWBURY AND HUNGERFORD

Tel.
HUNGERFORD 8

DOWNLAND VILLAGE

On the outskirts, in an unspoiled position with open outlook.

BRICK, FLINT AND TILED TUDOR COTTAGE

With massive internal timbering. 4 bed., bath. (h. and c.), 2 sitting, cloak (h. and c.), kitchen and offices. Double garage. Garden and paddock.

ABOUT $4\frac{1}{2}$ ACRES

Main water and electricity.

VACANT POSSESSION

FREEHOLD £6,500

HAMPSHIRE HILLS

In a tiny hamlet, quiet and rural, with good bus service.

SMALL DETACHED BUNGALOW

brick and tiled, with 2 bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), sitting room, living room/kitchen, etc. Garden and small garage.

Main water and electricity. Septic tank drainage. Constant hot water.

FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION, £2,300

NORTH BERKSHIRE

3 miles from market town and within easy reach of many well-known market centres.

FREEHOLD DAIRY AND CORN FARM

with a comfortable 5-bedroomed farmhouse, modernised.

COMPREHENSIVE BUILDINGS

with milking parlour and extensive storage.

PAIR MODERNISED COTTAGES

and 2 further cottages if needed.

ABOUT 143 ACRES

fertile lands in a ring fence, well watered, with extensive road frontages, and a further 50 acres available if required.

Main water and electricity.

FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION £23,000

BUCKLEBURY COMMON

In this favoured district between Newbury and Reading with good bus facilities.

FREEHOLD ROOMY BUNGALOW

standing back from the road, containing 3 bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), sitting and dining rooms, kitchen, etc. Garage and outbuildings. Garden and grassland, in all about $\frac{3}{4}$ ACRE

Main water and electricity. Septic tank drainage (main available).

Early Auction if not sold privately.

BERKS—HANTS BORDER

Newbury $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Good bus service

DELIGHTFUL MODERN BUNGALOW

erected late 1959 of brick and tile. First-class design, perfect condition and well fitted.

3 bedrooms, bathroom (h. and c.), separate w.c., spacious hall, large sitting room, dining/kitchen. Brick garage. Pleasant garden.

Main water and electricity. Septic tank drainage. Constant hot water.

Freehold With Possession £3,850

ORMISTON, KNIGHT & PAYNE

FERNDOWN, DORSET (Tel. 863).

And at Bournemouth, Ringwood, Brockenhurst, Barton-on-Sea and Highcliffe.

EAST DORSET. ENJOYING COMPLETE SECLUSION

In private road, short level walk shops and buses. 8 miles Bournemouth.

AN IDEAL BUNGALOW FOR RETIREMENT



Soundly constructed and fitted with central heating and hardwood flooring.

Hall, fine double lounge (23 ft. 9 in. long) opening on to terrace, dining room, 3 bedrooms (2 h. and c.), half-tiled bathroom, separate w.c., superb American-style streamlined kitchen.

Large brick GARAGE.

Main services.

THE BUNGALOW is set in a charming easily kept garden, enjoying a full south aspect and is a really comfortable, labour-saving home.

PRICE £7,150 FREEHOLD

Full details from Sole Agents as above.

MOLDRAM, CLARKE & EDGLEY

Chartered Surveyors, Auctioneers and Estate Agents.

30, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING. Tel. 3419 (3 lines).

By order of the Executors.

WEST BYFLEET, SURREY

This attractive Detached Freehold Residence of Character known as
THE LITTLE HOUSE, THORLEY CLOSE, WEST BYFLEET

comprising:

GALLERIED HALL

CLOAKROOM

LOUNGE

DINING ROOM

DOMESTIC OFFICES

5 BEDROOMS

2 BATHROOMS

GARAGE

Part oil-fired heating.

Main services.

Immaculate grounds of

about $\frac{3}{4}$ ACRE



FOR SALE BY AUCTION, FEBRUARY 23, 1961

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

ARGYLL

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE, STALKING AND FISHING TO LET, WITH STAFF
FOR MINIMUM PERIOD FROM AUGUST 1 TO OCTOBER 15, 1961

Probably available for a prior period.

Limit of 70 stags (possibly more, at head stalker's discretion).

Last year's bag included 5 Royals and 1 Imperial.

River and loch fishing.

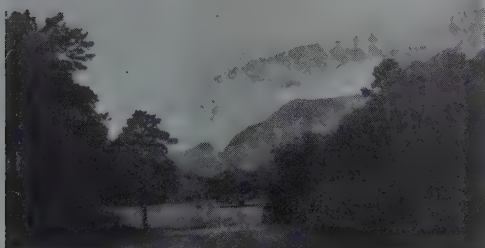
House, beautifully furnished and fully modernised, comprising: 11 principal bedrooms and dressing rooms, 7 bathrooms, 5 reception rooms. *Central heating.*

GARAGE FOR 5 CARS

Rent will include head stalker, cook/housekeeper, table maid and handyman, fuel and light etc.

Additional stalker and ghillies available.

Particulars from Sole Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & CO.



TRUSTEES SALE

HASLEMERE, SURREY—WATERLOO 1 HOUR

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

THURSLEY HALL

A CHOICE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WITH ABOUT 19 ACRES AND THREE SERVICE COTTAGES

THE WELL APPOINTED COUNTRY HOUSE stands in surroundings of great natural beauty adjoining National Trust lands and approached through woodland by two drives. HALL WITH FINE GALLERIED STAIRCASE, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS AND SUN ROOM, 6 PRINCIPAL AND 3 SECONDARY BEDROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS (3 in suites), BILLIARDS ROOM.

All main services. Complete central heating and domestic hot water from separate oil-fired boilers.

FINELY TIMBERED EASILY MAINTAINED GROUNDS MERGING INTO WOODLAND, 5 ACRE PADDOCK, EXCELLENT GARAGE AND OTHER BUILDINGS

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY AS A WHOLE OR BY AUCTION IN LOTS LATER

Full particulars obtainable from either Messrs. ALFRED SAVILL & SONS, 51a, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2 (Tel. Holborn 8741) or JOHN D. WOOD & CO H.23309

MAYfair 6341
(15 lines)

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.
SOUTH WALES OFFICE: EAGLE HOUSE, PORT TALBOT (Tel. 2087/8)

Telegrams:
"Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London"

SLOANE SQUARE, S.W.1 and at
52, CHURCH ROAD, HOVE

WILLETT

Tel. SLOane 8141 and 3435
Tel. HOVE 34055

HERTFORDSHIRE

4 miles Knebworth station. London 45 minutes.



Facing south over a picturesque village green in beautiful rolling country 30 miles north of London.

3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, modern kitchen, 2 bathrooms. Garage. New electrically-heated greenhouse. Very attractive garden with long moat-like pond.

FREEHOLD £6,950
(London Office.)

550 ft. up between Reigate and Epsom in the Green Belt close to Walton Heath Golf Club with

CHARMING VIEWS OVER FARMLAND

AN ATTRACTIVE FULLY MODERNISED 1 HOUSE OF CONSIDERABLE CHARACTER
3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, laundry and maid's room.
Oil central heating.

Delightful garden with hard tennis court and paddock.

FREEHOLD £10,750 (London Office.)

URGENTLY WANTED

A special applicant urgently seeks

GEORGIAN OR OTHER PERIOD HOUSE

having 5-7 bedrooms with COTTAGE if possible and 5 TO 10 ACRES.

Alternatively small farm of around 200 acres.
Owners wishing to sell such property in the area bounded by HASTINGS and SEVENOAKS to the east, and ARUNDEL and GUILDFORD to the west, please send details and photographs if possible.

QUITE EXCEPTIONAL

Must be seen to be appreciated.



In a quiet, sunny position on the edge of a Bucks village with good shops. Close to Woburn. 2 miles from M1.

Large L-shaped living room, fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, luxurious bathroom.

Garage. Lovely small garden. All in perfect order.

FREEHOLD £6,500
London Office.

SHERBORNE
Tel. 5

SENIOR & GODWIN

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

STURMINSTER NEWTON
Tel. 244 (4 lines)

NORTH DORSET

IN THE CENTRE OF THE BLACKMORE VALE

A FINE MODERN HOME IN UNSPOILT COUNTRYSIDE

Beautifully appointed stone-built Residence on two floors.

HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, 7 BEDROOMS
3 BATHROOMS, MODERN KITCHEN

Main services and oil-fired central heating.

LODGE. 4 COTTAGES

Excellent stables and garages.

Lawns, walled garden, hard tennis court, farmery and pasture.

In all 46 ACRES or thereabouts.

**VACANT POSSESSION
ON COMPLETION**



For full particulars and to view, apply to the Sole Agents: SENIOR & GODWIN, Half Moon Street, Sherborne, Dorset.



66/68 HAYMARKET
S.W.1

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY HOUSES

Telephone:
WHITEHALL 7761
(3 lines)

HIGHLY COVETED POSITION AT PURLEY, SURREY

Standing in an elevated position within convenient distance of Purley station with excellent train services to the City and West End.

MAGNIFICENTLY BUILT RESIDENCE OF ATTRACTIVE CHARACTER

having a well-planned interior with fine quality features, including wood block floors throughout the ground floor, fitted basins in nearly all bedrooms, and many other features.

Entrance hall and cloakroom, 2 charming reception rooms, breakfast room, 5-7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Central heating. All main services.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Delightful well-stocked garden, forming a picturesque setting for the house without being expensive to maintain.

NEARLY 1 ACRE. FOR SALE FREEHOLD

AN IDEAL HOME FOR A BUSINESS MAN WITH A FAMILY

JUST IN THE MARKET FOR SALE AND HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Sole Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., 66-68, Haymarket, S.W.1. Tel. Whitehall 7761.

AMROTH, WOBURN HILL, ADDLESTONE, SURREY

CHARMING RESIDENCE OF DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER

In lovely gardens, forming miniature parklike setting. 3 fine reception rooms, 5-7 bedrooms (basins), 2 bathrooms. *Oil-fired central heating. All mains. Garage for 3. Delightful gardens 1 ACRE.*

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY OR BY AUCTION LATER

GLORIOUS RURAL SETTING IN DEVONSHIRE

Between Tiverton and South Molton with unspoiled views to Dartmoor.

ENCHANTING COTTAGE RESIDENCE of picturesque character recently the subject of considerable expenditure. 2 reception, 4 bed. (basins), 2 bathrooms. *Central heating, mains. 2 garages. Old-world garden and paddock. 2 ACRES.*

ONLY £3,600

URGENTLY WANTED TO PURCHASE

REALLY SMART MODERN HOUSE required by director of large International Company within convenient DAILY ACCESS of WEST END up to, say, 40 miles. 5-6 bedrooms, 2-3 reception, 2 or 3 bathrooms. Cottage liked. **About 1 ACRE** upwards.

Price up to £20,000, dependent on character and condition.

HOAR & SANDERSON ASSOCIATED WITH

ASHTAD BOOKHAM EAST HORSLEY EPSOM FARNHAM GODALMING GUILDFORD HASLEMERE LEATHERHEAD TOLWORTH WOKING

FARNHAM

In lovely 4-acre setting some 3 miles from the shopping centre and station.



A FINE AND WELL-EQUIPPED RESIDENCE nicely maintained and affording hall, cloakroom, 2 reception, morning room, modern offices, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. *Central heating. Garage and outbuildings.*

£11,250 FREEHOLD

Farnham Office, 29, South Street. Tel. 4407/8.

READY FOR OCCUPATION 2-3 WEEKS HORSLEY—Attractive Garden Site

Under 10 minutes' walk station and shops. New architect designed Bungalow, well planned accommodation to include full central heating. 3 good bedrooms (fitted wardrobe cupboards), 22 ft. through lounge, fitted kitchen, large entrance hall, bathroom. Separate w.c. Outside toilet. Secluded garden.

PRICE £6,300 FREEHOLD

22, Station Parade, East Horsley. Tel. 4242/3.

C. BRIDGER & SONS

HASLEMERE—under 1 hr. Waterloo EXCLUSIVE NEW DEVELOPMENT

Very attractive landscape sites in beautiful surroundings.



Superior split-level and traditional houses. Designed to meet individual requirements.

FREEHOLD from £4,750 to £7,500 INCLUSIVE. Many up-to-date features. *Oil-fired heating.* One of the outstanding developments in S.W. Surrey. Details Haslemere Office. Tel. 3273/4.

CHAMBERLAINE-BROTHERS & EDWARDS

FOR MIDLANDS AND THE WEST

1, Imperial Square, **CHELTENHAM** (Tel. 53439). High Street, **SHEPTON MALLET**, Som. (Tel. 2357). 18, Southernhay East, **EXETER** (Tel. 72321)

£2,250. GLOUCESTER—HEREFORD BORDER PRETTY COTTAGE RESIDENCE AND 1/2 ACRE

Ideal for further modernisation. 4 bedrooms, reception, kitchen, cloakroom. Main water, w.c. (Main electricity soon.)

A NORTH WILTSHIRE PRIVATE HOTEL

£12,000 AS A GOING CONCERN

Close to a charming small historical old town. 18 bedrooms (all h. and c.), 4 bathrooms, good public rooms. Main services. Central heating. GARAGES and old gardens with lawns.

Agents, Cheltenham (as above).

FRINGE OF COTSWOLDS NEAR BURFORD SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE

Outskirts village. For Sale either as a whole for £6,500 or in 2 portions, each at about £3,500, with good gardens. Total size about 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3-4 reception rooms. Mains. Central heating. Garages, etc. Agents, Cheltenham (as above).

EXFORD, EXMOOR—CLOSE KENNELS

BEAUTIFUL COMPACT MODERNISED PERIOD HOUSE EASILY RUN 4 bedrooms, 2 attic store rooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 w.c.s, sitting room (25 ft.), dining room, kitchen/breakfast room. *All mains. Garage, garden paddock. 2 ACRES*

£4,250 FREEHOLD

Agents, Exeter (as above).

A LUXURY BUNGALOW IN ONE ACRE OF PRODUCTIVE WALLED GARDEN

Worcester 6 miles.

£6,000 (offers).

Hall, cloakroom, spacious sitting room, large lavishly fitted kitchen/breakfast room, 3 good bedrooms, fine bathroom. *Main electricity and water. GARAGE*

Agents, Cheltenham (as above).

A MINIATURE ESTATE NEAR STRATFORD-ON-AVON CHARMING SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER

(4/5 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms) with cottage. Old-world garden and about 20 ACRES of grazing. **£13,500**

Agents, Cheltenham (as above).

HEREFORDSHIRE. £4,950

A VERY CHARMING SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER in lovely district. 3/4 bedrooms, luxury bathroom, cloakroom, splendid kitchen

Most delightful easy garden and small paddock.

Recommended by Sole Agents, Cheltenham (as above).

IN A LITTLE COTSWOLD TOWN A MEDIUM-SIZED "TOWN HOUSE" OF CHARACTER

In the Cirencester area.

With small walled garden, 3 reception, cloakroom, good kitchen, etc. About 5 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. *Mains. Central heating. Large garage.*

Sole Agents, Cheltenham (as above).

Est.
1846

J. CHAMBERS & CO.

17, HART STREET, HENLEY-ON-THAMES

Tel. Nos.
71 and 1510

DETACHED CHARACTER HOUSE. ERECTED 1958

OUTSKIRTS OF HENLEY

In favourite position on high ground with open outlook.



3 BEDROOMS
2 RECEPTION
BATHROOM
HALL, CLOAKROOM
KITCHEN

Under-cover fuel store.

Full central heating. Main water and electricity.

GARAGE

Garden 3/4 ACRE

PRICE £8,750 FREEHOLD

RAWLENCE & SQUAREY F.R.I.C.S.

SALISBURY, SHERBORNE, SOUTHAMPTON, TAUNTON

By order of the Dorset County Council.

ONLY 2 MILES FROM DORCHESTER

FREEHOLD PROPERTY BEING THE KINGSTON MAURWARD

FISHING RIGHTS LOWER BOCKHAMPTON

Comprising:

TROUT FISHING IN THE RIVER FROME OF ABOUT 2,600 YARDS (Mainly single bank.)

Together with various minor carriers and useful spawning grounds.

All water is in hand and available for coming season.

FOR SALE BY AUCTION AT THE ANTELOPE HOTEL, DORCHESTER, ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1961, AT 3 p.m.

Solicitor: A. C. TEMPLEMAN, Esq., The County Solicitor, County Hall, Dorchester (Tel. 1000).

Auctioneers from whom sale particulars and plans may be obtained: RAWLENCE & SQUAREY, 8-12, Rolleston Street, Salisbury (Tel. 2467-8).

STATE

Kennington 1490
 Telegrams:
 Estates, Harrods, London"

HARRODS

32, 34 and 36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

OFFICES

West Byfleet

Haslemere and Berkhamsted

AUCTION MARCH 1 NEXT (unless previously sold)
THE POOL HOUSE, KIMPTON BOTTOM,
HARPENDEN, HERTS

Daily reach of London. 3 miles Harpenden. 30 minutes St. Pancras.

A MOST ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD HOUSE

Square hall, 2-3 reception
 and 5 bedrooms;
 bathroom.

Central heating,
 main electricity and artesian
 well.

Garden chalet. Garage.

Swimming pool, 75 ft.
 by 25 ft. with 50 dressing
 cubicles.

The whole stands in about
6½ ACRES
 with very little upkeep.



N.B. A unique country home at present run commercially as licensed restaurant with swimming pool and tennis.

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENnington 1490. Extn. 807; or 112, High Street, Berkhamsted. Tel. 666.

GATEWAY TO MAIDENHEAD GOLF COURSE

Very convenient position, 1 minute buses, under ½ mile station (Paddington 35 minutes).
 Easy reach Slough, Ascot and Windsor.

VERY CHARMING GEORGIAN STYLE HOUSE

Nearly new and
 immaculate order.

Hall, cloak.
 2 communicating reception
 rooms.

3 bedrooms, bathroom.
 Luxury kitchen.

GARAGE

FULL GAS-FIRED
 CENTRAL HEATING

All mains.

About ¼ ACRE



FREEHOLD £6,150

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENnington 1490. Extn. 809.

5 BEDROOMS. ONLY £9,750

Hadley Wood, Herts. Quiet position adjacent Golf Course.
 Short walk station (City in under 30 minutes).

EXCELLENT DETACHED HOUSE

Built about 4 years; ideal for family.



FREEHOLD—VERY REASONABLE PRICE

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENnington 1490. Extn. 827.

ONLY 4 MILES HYDE PARK CORNER**EXCEPTIONAL LUXURY****NEWLY-BUILT CHALET-BUNGALOW**

in unrivalled position at Barnes.

2-3 bedrooms, 1-2 reception, bathroom, separate w.c.

OIL-FIRED UNDER-FLOOR HEATING

Sapele wood block floors and staircase.

DETACHED GARAGE

FIRST-CLASS SWIMMING POOL about 58 ft. by 24 ft.

Delightful landscaped gardens of

About ½ ACRE

Substantial price required for new 99 years' lease at £30 p.a.

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENnington 1490. Extn. 828.

ASHURST HOUSE AND THE POST BOY ANTIQUE**GALLERIES, FLIMWELL, KENT**

A picturesque residential property with adjacent Antique Galleries, on main London-Hastings road, 9 miles south of Tunbridge Wells and 44 miles from London.

3 reception rooms (one
 30 ft. by 22 ft.), 4 bedrooms,
 bathroom.

Main electricity.

Artesian well.

Double garage.

Antique galleries 80 ft.
 by 30 ft. with drive in.

About 16 ACRES
 Mainly woodland.



Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENnington 1490. Extn. 810-820.

AUCTION MARCH 1 AT WEYBRIDGE (unless previously sold)**FORTON, THE HEATH, WEYBRIDGE**

Attractive residential position, 5 minutes' walk station and 27 minutes Waterloo.

A MODERN HOUSE ON 2 FLOORS ONLY

Large vestibule, hall,
 cloakroom, 2-3 reception
 rooms and 5 bedrooms,
 3 bathrooms.

Gas-fired central heating,
 main services.

GARAGE

Delightful garden of over
 ½ ACRE



Joint Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. KENnington 1490. Extn. 806; or 8-9, Station Approach, West Byfleet. Tel. (BY4) 42281 and EWBANK & Co., 7-9, Baker Street, Weybridge. Tel. 15 (WR4) 2323-5.

WEST DORSET COAST

Bridport 3 miles, Dorchester and Weymouth 15 miles.

A STONE-BUILT COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER

4 reception rooms.
 7-9 bedrooms. bathroom.

Main electricity and water.

2 COTTAGES

GARAGING FOR 6
 and other outbuildings.

Lovely garden and grounds
 with distant views of the
 sea, and useful pasture, in
 all about 10½ ACRES



FREEHOLD FOR SALE WITH POSSESSION

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENnington 1490. Extn. 806-810.

WIMBLEDON BORDERS—ONLY 8 MILES TOWN

Adjacent playing fields.

**LONG, LOW-BUILT COUNTRY-STYLE HOUSE
OF CHARM AND CHARACTER**

Hall cloakroom, magnificent galleried reception hall about 33 ft. 6 in. by 32 ft.

2 other reception rooms, morning room and kitchen.

5 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms (including principal suite).

Wealth of oak joinery.

2 DETACHED GARAGES

Delightful gardens of
 About ½ ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

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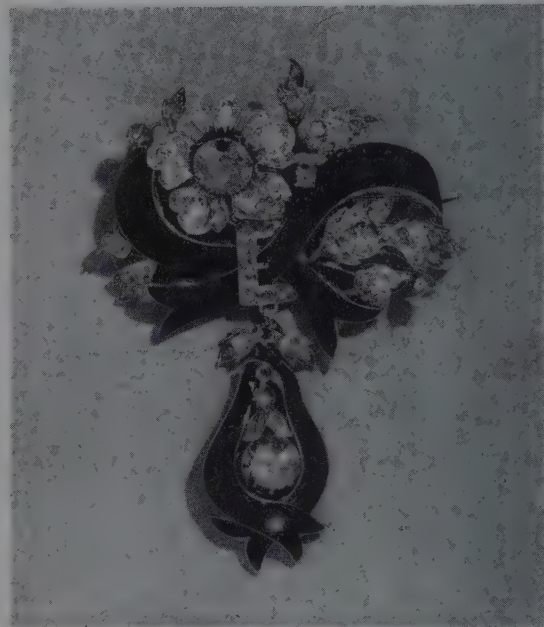
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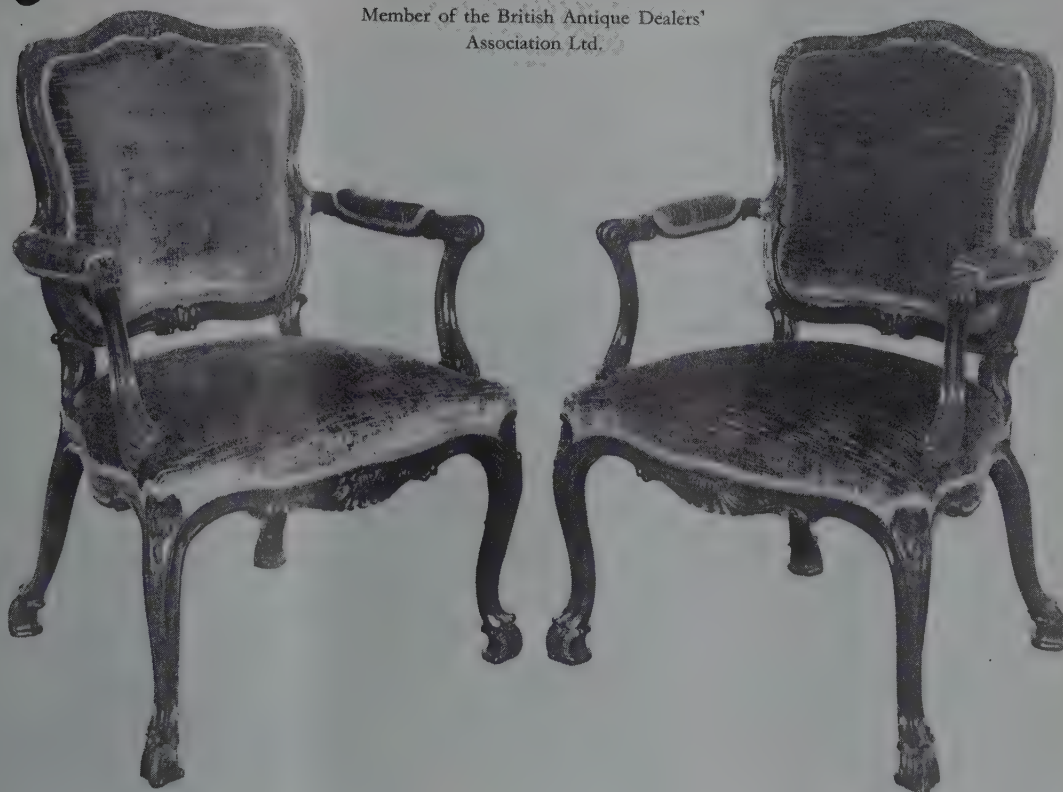
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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXXIX No. 3334

JANUARY 26, 1961



Fayer

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A SIGNIFICANT CENSUS

FOR those who see Britain's major domestic problem in terms of ensuring the well-being of a rapidly multiplying population in a relatively small island the year just begun is one of exceptional interest because it is the time appointed for "numbering the people." The information produced by a census is always instructive, but the harvest of facts and figures that the enumerators of 1961 will gather will be particularly valuable because it will contain the first substantial evidence of the effects of post-war planning legislation. The well-being of the population is, of course, of first importance: perhaps never more so than to-day, when the continuance of a rising standard of living is confidently expected by the broad mass of the people. But ranking higher in importance than at any time hitherto is the right distribution of our multiplying millions.

Among the aims of planning legislation is a reconciliation of the needs of industrial expansion and of better housing on the one hand and the need to increase agricultural production and to safeguard the beauty and amenities of the island on the other. Four-fifths of our population live in towns, and some of the towns have merged into those vast urban sprawls known as conurbations. Without the kind of regulated development that post-war planning imposes, some of the conurbations would by now have begun to grow into one another. The desire, fostered by prosperity, to live beyond the conurbations would have begun a process of residential development that could have so stippled the countryside with houses that in most parts of England it might have become impossible to get away from the sight of bricks and mortar. There are areas of Scotland and Wales, also, where unregulated development would have produced a similar prospect. Such are the pressures generated by a multiplying population and expanding industries. The intensity of those pressures can perhaps be imagined by recalling that during the lifetime of a person now 80 years of age the population of England and Wales has almost doubled, and that it is still increasing.

Although the census is taken only at intervals of ten years, the Registrar General, from the records of births and deaths, compiles an annual estimate that affords a trustworthy indication of trends between the census years. The most recent of these calculations, announced last week-end, shows an excess of births over deaths of 256,395 in England and Wales during 1960. This is the largest excess since 1948, a year in which, owing to demobilisation and re-settlement, an exceptionally high birth rate was

anticipated. Last month the Registrar General issued an estimate of the total population of England and Wales at June 1 last. Taking the figure then announced, 45,755,000, and comparing it with the total produced by the census of 1951, which was 43,758,000, a difference of nearly 2,000,000 appears. That gives an indication of the increase we may expect to see in the 1961 census. But while it may be prudent to reckon for the present on a continuance of the tendency of our population to increase, it has been well said that man himself cannot be planned; nor is it safe to assume that the population will fluctuate in response to specific economic and social factors. The late Sir Francis Joseph, a shrewd industrialist of the period, in an address to a conference of the Union of Lancashire and Cheshire Institutes in 1937, predicted that, if the birth rate of that time of industrial revival were maintained the population of England and Wales would in 1962 have shrunk to 36,000,000. He said: "Twins look like receiving valuable prizes while triplets will doubtless have the freedom of the city conferred upon them." He allowed that his figures might prove to be wrong, "but only if the women of Britain are convinced that there is little or no fear of their children being killed or maimed by war." Since then we have had the second World War and the emergence of the H bomb, and Sir Joseph's forecast of a dwindling population has proved so very wrong that it would be unwise to plan on too fixed an assumption of what the future may bring. Economic and social changes have made nonsense of what seemed a sensible prediction 24 years ago. The assumption that our population will continue to increase, or will even stay at its present level, may be proved equally false by 1985.

THREE-TIERED CIRCUS PLAN

THE Piccadilly Circus tangle has to be resolved at three levels, in both space and finance. Sir William Holford has indicated how his scheme of comprehensive redevelopment would utilise the present underground concourse level, and an "upper deck" partly surrounding and covering the Circus area, to segregate pedestrians from the traffic at ground level and to extend into and through projected new buildings not only on the Monico but on the London Pavilion and Trocadero sites and next to the Criterion. It is the attractively daring but lucid kind of conception that can alone sort out architecturally this particular ganglion and produce a pattern for dealing with others. But it assumes the co-ordination of the property interests with the planning authority (the L.C.C.) and the Government. To control the first, compulsorily or by agreement, would involve financial resources that the L.C.C. would need Treasury help to find. There are reasons to believe, we hope well founded, that the Government realises that general opinion would wholeheartedly support the investment of public money (which could scarcely fail to be profitable) in a really properly worked out and designed solution, preferably with the co-operation of all the interests concerned, for what is essentially a national problem and opportunity.

TACKLING BLACK DIESEL FUMES

AS a general rule the drivers of heavy lorries set an example in manners to other road users, but in one particular respect, the emission of black fumes, they are liable to offend. The hazard caused by coming up behind a heavy lorry on a hill, and finding that it is difficult to overtake because fumes obscure the view ahead, is only too familiar a problem of long-distance driving. It is therefore encouraging to know that the Minister of Transport is at present considering an amendment to existing regulations, under the 1960 Road Traffic Act, which should do much to reduce the nuisance. The essence of the problem is that diesel engines have an excess-fuel device that enriches the mixture, like the choke on a petrol engine, but is designed to be used only for starting. Unfortunately some drivers use this device when hill-climbing, in a mistaken attempt to obtain extra power. The Minister's amendment would require manufacturers to remove the control of the device from the cab of the lorry, where the driver can

reach it when driving, and put it under bonnet, or else make the device fully automatic as it already is on some vehicles. The particular merit of this proposal is that it would strengthen the hands of the police, who hesitate to prosecute for the nuisance of black diesel fumes—as they can under existing law—because of the difficulty of establishing the degree of nuisance caused. If an offending driver is found to have tampered with a sealed device under the bonnet, police should have a clear case.

THREAT TO DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK?

LAST week's decision by Devon County Council to petition against the City of Plymouth's attempt to create a civic airport at Harrowbeer, near Yelverton, will greatly reinforce the mounting opposition to the scheme. Harrowbeer was a war-time aerodrome already possesses runways; the private, recently deposited in Parliament by the City of Plymouth would allow this site, which is within the boundaries of the Dartmoor National Park, to be converted to meet the needs of modern civil aviation. Whether the creation of an airport within a National Park, with its attendant hangars and reception buildings, would be damaging to local amenities is now a matter that Parliament must decide. It is, however, established by the National Parks Act of 1949 that the purpose of designating an area as a National Park is to "preserve and enhance its natural beauty." As a guiding principle would seem to follow that no industrial development should be permitted unless it can be shown beyond doubt that it is essential in the national interest and cannot be sited elsewhere. On the face of it the City of Plymouth should have had a hard task in persuading Parliament that the conditions apply at Harrowbeer.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

MAGIC OF SNOW ON THE FELS	by W. A. POUCHER	...
THE INGENIOUS BEETHAM FAMILY	by JOHN WOODIWISS	...
DAYS OF THE YORKSHIRE CAVEMEN	by JOHN NORTH	...
CHOPIN IN BRITAIN'S MUSICAL LIFE	by ALASDAIR ALPIN MACGREGOR	...
THE WELSH RUGBY REVIVAL	by O. L. OWEN	...
SNITTERTON HALL, DERBYSHIRE—I	by ARTHUR OSWALD	...
WATCHING BIRDS IN ADEN	by H. E. ENNION	...
A HOUSE DESIGNED TO BE FLEXIBLE	by H. DALTON CLIFFORD	...

Regular Features

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES	by IAN NIALL	...
TALKING ABOUT SALE-ROOMS	by FRANK DAVIS	...
RACING NOTES	by DARE WIGAN	...
A COUNTRYWOMAN'S NOTES	by EILUNED LEWIS	...
CORRESPONDENCE	...	...
MOTORING NOTES	by J. EASON GIBSON	...
A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE	by M. HARRISON-GRAY	...
FARMING NOTES	by SIMBA	...
THE ESTATE MARKET	by PROCURATOR	...
NEW BOOKS	by HOWARD SPRING	...
FASHIONS	by BETTY WILSON	...

Next Week's Issue

COUNTRY LIFE of February 2 will include articles on some outstanding windmills of Devon and Sussex, by John Mannering; on the growth of oaks in Britain, by John L. J. on the town of Priego in southern Spain; Richard Musman; and on plants that look best among shrubs, by M. H. Porter. In addition, there will be a report of the Monte Carlo Rally by J. Eason Gibson.

COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By IAN NIALL

KALE and broccoli of all kinds are a great attraction for birds that are fond of greenstuff. Curly kale is enjoyed by pigeons and pigeons and, knowing this, I have been keeping an eye on the kitchen garden, for last season I planted quite a lot of curly and purple broccoli, thinking we might use them as a vegetable in the spring. So far the pigeons haven't come, and when they do they probably have looked carefully at the tender, but the pigeons are well aware that there is no close season so far as they are concerned.

In the meantime, after an absence of many years, birds are roosting in the little wood. This presence of birds has puzzled me, and I can put it down only to the cold winds we have suffered, for to-day the birds are back and pigeons went at dusk to roost in the ivy that entwines the trunks of several pines at the top end of the wood. They were noticed going in, and we went up with a powerful lamp and a gun to get to match the bird already in the refrigerator. A pigeon dish with only one bird is hardly worth putting on the table.

Our "night light" proved adequate. We managed to find the bird at roost and used the gun to shoot it, but alas, it got hooked up in the ivy branches and just wouldn't come down. The tree is quite high and there is no help for it. Crows or an owl may feed on our bird, and one in the refrigerator, having been there long enough, must come lonely to the table and be devoured.

* * *

THE characters that lived about my old village were already dying out when I was there, I am told. I knew quite a few of them, but the cream had gone. The older inhabitants tell me this and shake their heads in dismay, they say, we are breeding up a race of uncouth specimens in jeans and leather jackets. It is about the singers who sang so lustily on their way up the hill to the lonely farms? What about the blacksmith and his drunken apprentice? What about Hugh Bach and Hugh Smoke? I never knew Hugh Smoke, but he had a reputation for making smoking chimneys draw. Every one who had this sort of trouble sent for Hugh Smoke. He was a craftsman, they say, and, although he was employed by a contractor who repaired property in the village and on the adjoining estate, he had secrets that he would not communicate to no one. In this he reminded me of my grandfather, who said that a good craftsman always covered his work from the eyes of intruders and the curious. Hugh Smoke would enter a room with a bundle of straw over his arm, insert the straw in the chimney and set it alight. After this he would go out and watch the smoke for a while and then return to adjust the flue, taking out a brick or a piece, or changing the throat of the fire. No one was allowed to see what he did, for this was the thing that had earned him his name and the reason why he was never without employment.

Hugh Smoke, I am told, had a special recipe for making up a fireplace. It was a mixture of river sand, unslaked lime and cow-dung. The quantities were not disclosed, but the mixture was fireproof and lasted a lifetime. I am sorry I didn't meet Hugh Smoke, but I met someone who might have been his apprentice, a man who doctored our fireplace when we had altered. He was an expert at making a chimney draw. On reflection I think he was probably in the pay of the Coal Board, for we burned twice as much coal after he had done.

* * *

WE were talking, the other night, about the memory of animals—dogs, horses and domesticated creatures. Dogs, of course, have excellent memories for people they like



A. W. Besley

THE OLD WAY: PLOUGHING ON THE EDGE OF DARTMOOR

or dislike. They hardly ever seem to forget people who have been kind to them in their puppyhood or impressionable years. One instance in particular that comes to mind is that of a dachshund puppy that my wife looked after for a short time. The puppy became very attached to her and then was taken to its rightful home, but always, when its owner visited us, the dachshund made a great fuss of my wife, and we were told that as the car approached our house the dog would show signs of excitement and delight, even though its visits were infrequent and a long time had elapsed since it had been kept in our house as a puppy.

Less pleasant is my own memory of an Old English sheepdog that always greeted me with bared fangs, although I had never done it the slightest harm. It remembered me, year after year, as someone it disliked. The only explanation I ever had was that it mistook me for someone who had kicked it or thrashed it, and, having made the mistake, it persisted in associating me with its suffering. Once a year when I visited the farm where it was kept, that sheepdog, in the midst of a collection of tail-wagging collies, did its best to take a piece out of one of my legs.

* * *

LIONS, I am told, also have long memories. A man I know took employment one summer looking after some animals in a private zoo. He fed and cleaned, brushed and groomed all sorts of animals, and among them were two lions. The female was less docile than the

male, but neither objected to his brushing the cage out, pushing them about, or even resting on their backs, and in the course of his labour he became very fond of both of them. At the end of the summer he gave up the job.

Two years later he found himself in London at a circus to which there was attached a menagerie. Walking round the menagerie he was delighted to discover that it contained two lions, but before he reached the lions they had discovered his presence and came rushing across the cage to him to rub their heads against the bars and be fondled by him. His acquaintance with them had been less than three months, and two years had elapsed. I find this quite touching, having great sympathy for creatures that are compelled to live penned behind bars.

* * *

IN spite of the great amount of gap-stopping I have done recently those troublesome sheep are back again. It was while I was looking about for thorns to stop gaps I began to consider the way a thorn tree ever gets to be a tree up there on the cliff, where the rock is covered with hardly two inches of soil and the wind makes everything bow to the ground or hug the contour of the cliff. In the comparatively bare places one discovers seedlings or tiny shoots of gorse among the grass. Where the gorse begins to rise a blackberry is sheltered and perhaps a wild rose, and in the tangle slowly a hawthorn or a black-thorn pokes through. Looking about one discovers the older and very gnarled thorns giving shelter to more dog roses and thicker tangles where all the plant life of scrub land can seed and flourish and ultimately spread.

Even in the years that I have known the cliff I have noted the closing of the gaps between one patch and the next, the encroachment on the small areas of fine grass. I fancy that in 10 or 15 years the way to the tower will be a cavern among high thorns and tall gorse, junipers and old wind-bent trees. Perhaps I shouldn't complain. Without patches of grass the sheep wouldn't invade. I was talking to-day to a farmer who has sheep, and he said that once sheep come in they go on doing so, and nothing but a complete change of territory will break them of the habit. If they can be kept out from the beginning, they give no trouble, but once they get the habit of breaking out, or in, nothing avails. They learn nothing at all from being driven off by a dog, and although a whistle that they associate with pursuit will make them run, in ten minutes they will be back again. The thought depresses me, particularly since we have more sheep on the cliff than I have ever seen on our side of the wall before.

FOG

*IS this the place I know?
Fields hidden in a gloom of white,
Trees looming like tall, scraggy ghosts;
No birds a-call
And sound all queerly blanketed.
I am an island
In a vast, dove-grey sea,
Lonely with nothingness about me,
All things dead
And mystery
In every path and lane.*

*And then—
A little wind bestirs,
A pallid sun peeps through,
Slowly dissolving the bleak mirage
Of emptiness and fear
That colour, sound and life,
The everyday,
May re-appear.*

MALCOLM HEMPHREY.

MAGIC OF SNOW ON THE FELLS

Written and Illustrated by W. A. POUCHER

IT is quite possible that most lovers of the Lake District may neither have seen snow there nor experienced its delights on the fells. In these islands we expect to find it without fail only on Ben Nevis and in the Cairngorms, which exceed the 4,000-foot contour, where it may remain in the higher corries until the early days of summer. Moreover, there are few who would choose a winter holiday in Lakeland, because the higher temperatures of the other seasons are usually preferred. In early

When snow falls on a freezing, windless day, it seems to descend in a profound silence. Those who choose to linger beside a tree and watch the snow's fleecy masses floating down and adhering to the branches witness one of the loveliest of metamorphoses; for in a short time the whole tree will assume an ethereal and enchanting beauty. Each of these fragile snowflakes is microscopic in size and geometrical in design, and reveals its intrinsic beauty only when observed under a powerful

passes; it causes the deep drifts that may compel the climber to retreat; and it creates the ripple sometimes of almost geometric pattern, that decorate the mountain tops.

The joys of winter climbing are at the peak on a clear, sunny and windless day. If the snow is soft and the climber sinks into it to his knees, the going is painfully slow; but if it is frozen hard and crunches beneath the soles of his boots, his progress is rapid and relatively easy. This pleasing sound is the only one



1.—WINTER IN THE LAKE DISTRICT: THE LANGDALE PIKES FROM ELTERWATER. "Under snow the hills stand out against the blue sky with startling clarity"

spring and late autumn they may have seen a sprinkling of white on the tops, but unless the snow is hard and dry it may be not only a nuisance but also a risk to the climber.

However, it must be borne in mind that the exquisite beauty of snow is largely dependent upon sunlight; for without it the white mantle of the snow is not only uninteresting but also monotonous to the eye. It is the sun that makes a white hill track sparkle like a carpet of diamonds; it is the sun that makes the long icicles on a frozen waterfall glint like polished spears; it is the sun that makes the ice on the lakes gleam like a gigantic silver mirror; and it is the sun that transforms our snow-clad fells into giants of alpine splendour. If you do not believe me, take a Lakeland holiday in late February, walk along one of the snow-mantled dales on a dull day and return to it in brilliant sunshine. The problem in Britain is to encounter these conditions, because clear and sunny winter days are rare, whereas they are common above the 4,000-foot contour anywhere in the Alps.

glass. Snow occurs in a variety of forms dependent upon the temperature. If it is below freezing-point, the flakes retain their brittle crystalline structure and impart a sublime beauty to the landscape. In this form it is known as powder snow and delights the skier, but, whereas it is common in the Alps, it is not often found in this country.

In the course of the last three decades I have made many winter visits to our hill country, and on only one of them was I fortunate enough to encounter these superlative conditions. That was in Snowdonia during late February, and on that memorable occasion the whole region presented a picture of matchless splendour, though mountaineering without skis was a risky venture.

Wind makes a big contribution to the beauty of snow, but is abhorred by the climber because it often forces him to fight his way along the ridges. Nevertheless, it sculpts the cornices along the crests of the ridges and the high summit plateaux; it forms the curves and lines that mark the upper reaches of the

break the vast white silence, because the bergs are held motionless in the grip of the frost, although in their lower reaches they may gull softly below the ice. In other seasons some the slopes of the passes are wet, and it is here that the climber must keep a sharp look-out for ice, hidden beneath the covering of snow. In such spots a slip may precipitate him down a slope, and he will be lucky to escape unhurt.

But once the climber has attained the summit, he scans a vast scene of surpassing beauty. The cornices, the curves, the lines of the intricate snow patterns are close at hand; the walls of the combs drop away precipitously at his feet, plastered with snow that converges far below in white hollows; the dales trail away in every direction, terminating perhaps with a glint of light reflected by a frozen lake or the narrow arêtes cut the skyline like mammal saws, their crests glittering with light; where a ridge upon ridge extends to the far horizon.

One of the most exciting moments on such a climb is when the hills suddenly appear on



2.—LOOKING ACROSS IIR TARN TO CRINKLE CRAGS AND BOW FELL



THE HELVELLYN RANGE FROM THE CAIRN ON THE SUMMIT OF ILL BELI. "It was a wild day, with masses of rapidly moving cloud, accompanied by terrific winds"



4.—HELVELLYN FROM GREENHOW END, WITH COFA PIKE IN THE MIDDLE DISTANCE. "The sun transforms our snow-clad fells into giants of alpine splendour"

distant horizon during the approach. Under snow they stand out against the blue sky with startling clarity, as seen in Fig. 1, where the low January sunlight clearly delineates Loft Crag, Harrison Stickle and Pavey Ark above the shadowed trees near Chapel Stile. The sparkle of sunlight on the frosted reeds of Elterwater in the foreground contributes much to the enchantment of the scene. I have visited the same spot in more recent winters when the absence of this particular feature robbed the view of much of its charm. On a recent occasion I spent a week in Langdale with a friend in anticipation of snow in February. When it came we lost no time in climbing Pike o'Blisco, and on descending the other side of the mountain en route for Crinkle Crag and Bow Fell we encountered the lovely view of Red Tarn shown in Fig. 2. Its ruffled surface reflected our main objectives, and the subsequent walk over this broad ridge opened up magnificent prospects of the snow-clad Scafell Pikes beyond Upper Eskdale. But by the time we reached Three Tarns it was too late in the day to take in Bowfell. In consequence we had to move quickly down the Band to gain the valley before dark.

When I am not in Switzerland in the winter, I listen diligently to the daily weather forecasts, and if heavy snow is reported in Lakeland I travel north by train at the first opportunity. The journey is always a great gamble, because the weather often changes before I reach Windermere and on arrival I have sometimes found the snow disappearing rapidly in a heavy thaw. However, on one occasion I was more fortunate when Arctic conditions lasted for several days, but, as the roads were impassable for traffic, it meant long walks to reach the hills.

My first tramp was to Ill Bell, by way of the Troutbeck Valley and Garburn Pass. It was a wild day, with masses of rapidly moving cloud accompanied by terrific winds, of whose power I was not fully conscious until I attained the crest of the pass. Here it was not only difficult to stand still, but also a problem to maintain an upright posture. The curves and lines in the snow hereabouts testified to the excellence of the wind as a sculptor, and as I fought my way along the broad ridge to Yoke in the teeth of the gale I was impressed by the geometrical pattern in the snow that changed little as I gained further height. By the time I reached the summit of Ill Bell I had had enough, and as I took shelter on the lee side of the cairn I watched the last rays of the fickle sunlight illuminate the Helvellyn range in the north-west (Fig. 3).

A few days of wild weather were followed by one of those wonderful breaks when the

stillness of the snow-bound world seems to make it a moral offence to climb the hills and disturb their impressive silence by even the crunch of snow underfoot. But no enthusiastic mountain photographer will countenance such speculative thoughts, as these are just the superlative conditions that give him the opportunity to practise his art and to show his less fortunate friends the marvellous transformations of those scenes with which they may be familiar in other seasons.

So I set out on foot to climb Fairfield and Helvellyn; but the distance proved to be so great from Windermere, and in some places I was so delayed by having to cut steps with my ice axe to ensure safe progress, that I reached the summit of Fairfield only after one of the most demanding ascents in my long experience. I was away early and never saw another human being after passing through Grasmere. The snow was firm, which made progress easier, and I

met the first hazard on the sharp rise to Grisedale Hause, where the slopes were icy and required the use of my axe. Grisedale Tarn was frozen solid and reposed in a vast white basin, but I passed it on the left and climbed steadily by the frosted stone wall, eventually to stand by the cairn on the summit of Fairfield.

Here the snow was beautifully patterned by a design that called urgently for the camera. A great cornice stretched round the curved crest of Deepdale, from Cofa Pike to Greenhow End, its walls plastered with snow that dropped away to the floor of the combe far below. The distant prospects were breathtaking. To the south the ridges and dales trailed away in the direction of Windermere. To the west the Central Fells stood up against the sky like alpine giants; to the east ridge after ridge of white led the eye to High Street and far beyond to the Pennines, but it was the nearer prospect to the north that held the gaze, where Helvellyn and its satellites crowned the vast scene as shown in Fig. 4.

So much for the winter snows of Lakeland. What about the other seasons? Although I have visited this delightful district in every month of the year, the only considerable snowfall I have experienced was, strangely enough, in May. I was staying in Wasdale, and the weather was excellent. Then I woke one morning to find the valley and its enclosing hills swept by a blizzard. It snowed all day, but on waking next morning I found the sun shining brilliantly and knew that if I was to take advantage of the conditions I should have to climb fast, as the snow would soon disappear in the renewed warmth of the sun.

There was only one other climber in the lodgings, and we decided over a hurried breakfast to ascend Great Gable with the hope of reaching its summit while the snow lay thick. We were slowed down by the soft covering of Gavel Neese and went over to the Napes on the right, where we climbed the Sphinx Ridge already bare rock. When we attained the cairn a storm was blowing up on the Scafell Pikes in every other direction it was clear. The extensive views round the arc from Pillar to the Langdale Pikes remained unsullied, and will be seen from Fig. 5, the vast flattish summit of Kirkfell carried plenty of snow, though much of it was rapidly disappearing from Pillar Fell. We lingered on the Gable until late in the day. On looking out next morning we found most of the snow had gone. I left after breakfast across Black Sail, and on reaching Scarth G turned left to walk over the High Stile Range, which by mid-day was devoid of snow.



5.—PILLAR AND KIRKFELL FROM THE SUMMIT OF GREAT GABLE. This picture was taken after a May blizzard

THE INGENUOUS BEETHAM FAMILY

By JOHN WOODIWISS

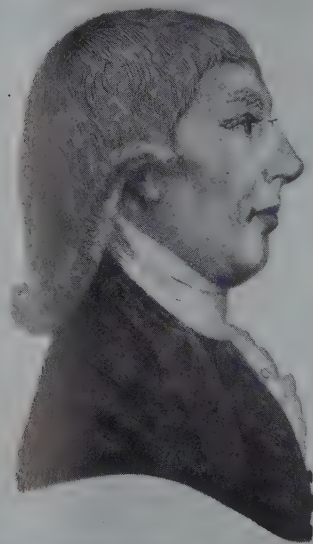
THE son of a rich Westmorland landowner, Edward Beetham (originally Betham) was born in 1744, near Appleby, on an estate his family had held for 600 years. He led a conventional life until his school-days were over the time arrived for him to choose a means of earning his living. It was then that he shocked his parents by announcing that he intended to become an actor. The announcement was met with incredulous horror; had he chosen to be a highwayman or pickpocket, the course could not have been more bitterly opposed. The mere mention of the word "player" was anathema to 18th-century landed gentry. By joining a company of strollers, a gentleman automatically degraded himself to the status of "rogue and rascal."

After a series of angry discussions, Edward was warned by his father that no barnstormer could possibly be connected with the family and, if he took this unthinkable step, he would be disowned and disinherited for ever. It was, unquestionably, a difficult decision to make, but almost foolhardy stubbornness, Edward determined to go on. Leaving his home an outcast, he never entered it again. Not only did he change his status, but even his surname was altered by the addition of an extra "e," so that he became Edward Beetham for the rest of his life.

Though he was well-educated, cultured and well-looking, he suffered many hardships. The life of a touring player during the reign of George III was uncertain and very rough. However, by pluck and severe economy, he at last managed to get London engagements at Sadler's Wells and the Little Theatre in the Haymarket, where he worked for Samuel Foote, the famous actor and mimic, who proved a powerful and long friend.

It was about this time that Edward's inventive faculty first came into play. One of the dangers in 18th-century playhouses was constant peril of fire. The primitive lighting provided by oil lamps and candles and, after time, a sudden gust of wind carried curtain billowing out over the unprotected lights, starting a blaze that, in turn, created a panic and often a heavy death-roll.

Young Beetham considered the matter fully and, after much thought and experiment, invented the roller curtain. This clever device was raised and lowered by ropes and pulleys working on a heavy wooden drum, round which the "drop" neatly coiled itself as it wound while, on being lowered, the roller acted as a kind of draught-proof anchor.



1.—EDWARD BEETHAM (1744-1809), ACTOR AND INVENTOR, FROM A MEZZOTINT AFTER A PORTRAIT BY ISABELLA BEETHAM. It forms the frontispiece of Beetham's *A New Lecture on Hearts and Moral Lectures on Heads*, published in 1780

Unfortunately, the inventor had not, at that time, enough money to patent his work and had the galling experience of seeing it installed in most of the important theatres of Britain without receiving a penny.

But now a new phase in his life opened. In 1772 he met and fell in love with Isabella Robinson, a charming young lady and a member of an old Forton, Hampshire, family. Though she was anxious to marry him, prejudice against stage players had the usual disastrous consequences. The lady's parents sternly refused their consent to the match. The lovers were forced to desperate measures and, at the age of 20, Miss Robinson became Mrs. Beetham, following a runaway marriage. She had no reason for regretting her choice, for the union proved a most fortunate one.

Before success finally came, however, the couple passed through some very lean years. It was this fact that encouraged Isabella to look

round for a means of augmenting the family income. Fortunately she possessed a remarkable talent for taking profiles or, as we call it now, cutting silhouettes. Her artistic career began inauspiciously in Clerkenwell, London, where, for the modest sum of half-a-crown (which included a second copy gratis), she snipped her black portraits and mounted them on white cards. Her cutting was extremely firm and detailed; but, having once established herself, she took lessons in miniature-painting from John Smart, senior, and soon discarded the scissors in favour of the brush.

Her husband, meanwhile, continued his theatrical career with fluctuating success and during out-of-work periods staged a one-man show entitled *A New Lecture on Hearts and Moral Lectures on Heads*, which, in 1780, was published, in pamphlet form, by T. Robson, of Newcastle. The frontispiece to this rare item was a portrait of the author, in mezzotint, drawn by his wife and engraved by I. Jehner (Fig 1).

For the moment, however, it was the profile artist who was the chief bread-winner for the growing family. She painted her shadow portraits on cards, composition, or "crystal glass" (a method that added a diaphanous beauty to the subject that has never been excelled). Her studio was moved to a more central address in Little Queen Street, Holborn, and, before long, to an even more impressive position at No. 4, Cornhill, near the Mansion House.

It was at the Cornhill address that, in 1782, Edward, whose active brain was seldom idle, produced a new and extremely useful labour-saving device, Beetham's Royal Patent Washing Mill, a hand-worked machine with which, he claimed, 60 shirts could be cleaned in an hour. It was, in fact, the father of all washing machines. So delicate was the method employed, he confidently assured intending customers, that a bank-note could undergo the same treatment as the linen without receiving the least damage. This "Magic Contrivance" was sold in several sizes, at prices ranging from four to five guineas.

The obvious advantages of this piece of household equipment made it an instant success, and it was as well that its designer had patented it. Before many years, he was obliged to take action in the Courts against a Mr. S. Bird for infringement, and was awarded a verdict, with damages and costs.

At last the Beethams were beginning to make a substantial fortune and, about 1783, they were able to buy the lease of No. 27, Fleet Street, an imposing, four-storeyed house that



THREE PROFILES BY ISABELLA BEETHAM. (Left to right) 2.—A PORTRAIT OF AN UNKNOWN WOMAN. 3.—ONE OF THE RE TRADE LABELS. This example sealed a frame containing a profile of the Rev. T. Drake, of Amersham. Although "Mary Wickham wife" is inscribed on the label, the author of this article thinks that the profile is possibly a self-portrait of Mrs. Beetham. 4.—A PORTRAIT OF AN UNKNOWN MAN

for many years served them as shop, studio and home.

Edward, steadily pushing his fortunes, gave free public, daily demonstrations of the washing mill, and so boosted his sales. His showrooms occupied the ground level, with a warehouse in the next building. He and his family lived on the first floor. The third storey was allotted to his staff, and on the fourth Mrs. Beetham, in a pleasant room overlooking St. Dunstan's Church and Fleet Street, painted her little masterpieces. Her list of distinguished patrons grew rapidly as her delicate work became the fashion. Beside the ordinary profiles, she produced tiny portraits on ivory, for mounting in the lids of patch-boxes and other pieces of jewellery.

Beetham now decided to take a well-earned holiday in Italy, combining business with pleasure. In 1784-5 he stayed in Venice, where, on the Island of Murano, he studied the latest methods of producing crystal glasses decorated with gold and silver, as added attractions to his wife's portraits.

By this time, four Beetham children were growing up and new and unexpected problems arose. Jane, the eldest daughter, was studying portrait-painting with John Opie, a family friend who, at that moment, was passing through a difficult time. His wife had deserted him, and left him a lonely and disillusioned man, and, by ill fortune, master and pupil fell in love. Opie determined to get a divorce and then marry the pretty, 23-year-old Jane, but this clandestine arrangement was at last discovered by the girl's parents, who soon put an end to it. Before long a more advantageous marriage was arranged, and Jane became the



5.—AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR EDWARD BEETHAM'S WASHING MILL, ABOUT 1785. The drawing is by Isabella Beetham

wife of a rich and elderly lawyer named Read. As a painter of miniatures on glass, she was later a well-known artist in her own right.

Edward Beetham was becoming an elderly man when he began his last and most successful speculation. During his years in Fleet Street, he had made many friends, among whom was Sir William Rawlins, a prominent member of the Company of Upholders and a respected business man who had served the City as Sheriff and received a knighthood. This gentleman, with a group of financiers, became the founder and first

chairman of a new insurance company, the Eagle, which came into being on October 23, 1807. Upon Rawlins' recommendation, Beetham was elected one of the company's directors.

At the same meeting, William Beetham, Edward's younger brother, was appointed solicitor and secretary. It seems obvious from the spelling of his name that he, too, had come under the family ban for joining its disownson. He proved such an asset to the company that he was eventually promoted to be general manager and, finally, to a seat on the board of directors.

Edward was not, alas, spared to see the ever-widening success of this new undertaking, but it flourished and grew to become one of the most important institutions of its kind. Edward Beetham died at 27, Fleet Street, in 1809 and, as a final mark of appreciation and regret, the insurance company directors voted a gift of 10 guineas and a piece of plate to his widow. Mrs. Beetham evidently found it disinclined to continue the business alone and, having disposed of the premises and goodwill, she retired to Somers Town. Nothing further

known of her movements or of when and where she died.

The frames containing her little masterpieces were frequently backed by trade labels. One of these (Fig. 3) consists of a female bust-length under which is printed "Profiles by M. Beetham No. 27, Fleet Street." It seems more than likely that this is a self-portrait of one of Britain's greatest practitioners in the intricate art of silhouette.

Illustrations: 1, British Museum; 4, Mrs. S. McKechnie.

DAYS OF THE YORKSHIRE CAVEMEN

By JOHN NORTH

THE status of the caveman, at least in England, has probably been over-rated. The caves were gloomy, draughty places, muddy and damp. They were well suited as haunts of refuge, but they were hardly ideal for permanent living. Most of the life would go on outside the caves, yet by their nature the caves have best preserved traces of the earliest times.

The largest concentration of cave and

pot-hole systems in Britain is found in north-west Yorkshire, in and around Ingleborough Mountain. Excavation during the past century has revealed that 10,000 years ago small bands of Azilians from France crossed the low-lying plain that is now the North Sea and visited this area. They hunted game, went fowling and harpooned fish in the lakes left by the Ice Ages, and found sanctuary in the caves when the

weather was bad, or when they were threatened by danger.

The Azilians, named after a French cave, the Mas d'Azil, in the Pyrenees, where the best evidence of their activity has been unearthed, knew the limestone country of Yorkshire for a long but indefinite period. They remain mysterious, shadowy figures. We cannot even guess at their numbers, for comparatively few would find accommodation underground and thereby have remains preserved to modern times. When intensive excavation was carried out at Victoria Cave, near Settle in the West Riding (Fig. 1)—one of the finest bone caves in the country—a bone harpoon was discovered. It had reversed barbs and was a little more than three inches long. The harpoon was first attributed to Neolithic times, but in 1935 the Abbé Breuil gave his opinion that it was pre-Neolithic in date and belonged to the Azilian period.

No one has been rash enough to say that there were no men in north-west Yorkshire before the area was chilled by the glaciers, but the caves have yet to yield indisputable evidence of them. A glimmer of hope passed among the workers at Victoria Cave when a six-inch fragment of bone that may have been of Palaeolithic Man was discovered. It was part of a fibula, a bone which lay beneath the grey, clinging glacial drift, in the region of the cave where the bones of long-extinct animals, including hippopotamus and woolly rhinoceros, had been located, but where there had been no signs of man. After considerable controversy, arguments based upon supposed human character were regretfully given up. To-day that little bone lies in the Museum of the Pig Yard Club at Settle, labelled "The Bone of Contention." The Club has spent 40 years hunting in caves for remains of early human and animal life (Fig. 3).

The West Yorkshire caves also hint at man belonging to a contemporary culture, the Maglemosian. Later, Neolithic Man was a cave dweller, though not exclusively so. He was a hunter and, to some extent, a pastoral farmer.



1.—VICTORIA CAVE, NEAR SETTLE, IN THE WEST RIDING. "One of the finest bone caves in the country." A bone harpoon was discovered here that is believed to have belonged to the Azilian period (about 8,000 B.C.)



A STUDY OF HURTLE POT, CHAPEL-LE-DALE, WHERE A BOGGART IS SAID TO BE IN RESIDENCE. From a set of lithographs by G. Nicholson, of Malton, published in 1822

Rev. E. Jones, of Embsay, clambered into a cave on Elbolton, a hill near Thorpe, in 1888, and found several skeletons of Neolithic origin in a sitting position, undisturbed except for the falls since they were buried. Around them were pieces of pottery, domestic objects and the bones of animals, including wild cattle, sheep, and fox. In a lower chamber were unearthed the bones of bears, from tiny cubs to adult animals.

There were cave-dwellers well within historical times. In the Romano-British period, with Roman security gone at the withdrawal of the legions, there was a prospect of death and destruction for the inhabitants from invaders who eventually drove the old British back into the far west, caves came into their use again. Many Romano-British objects, some of them quite valuable, have been found underground. It is reasonable to suppose that they were left by refugees from the loot-hungry Romans, Scots and Saxons. What was more natural, when the invaders were approaching, than that people should gather together their more valuable possessions and move to the high land where there were caves to give them refuge?

In 1745, when the young Pretender was at the height of his power, and it was doubtful whether he would pass through Ribblesdale or by way of Preston, one of the Settle landowners hid his son, and his family plate, in a cave not far from Victoria. It is said that the Highlanders were fond of eating children and put their hands on all precious metals. The last time the caves on the Settle near Settle were recorded as being in use was when there was a threat of Napoleonic invasion. Caves were actually earmarked by the Government for the use of the families.

Little is known of human association with the caves of Yorkshire from the time when human culture perished with looting,

destruction and flames, to the latter part of the 18th century and the beginning of the tourist interest. Yet clearly the caves were used in the intervening years.

A tradition has stubbornly persisted in Kingsdale that Yordas Cave is named after one of the old gods of the Vikings, who most certainly knew the area. Indeed, they set the basic pattern of sheep-farming. Did Ramric, the mediaeval Manx poet, spend some time as a hermit in Victoria Cave? In the museum of the Pig Yard Club is a small piece of slate that was unearthed in 1870 by three local labourers employed by the British Association. Markings on the slate have been linked with the Manxman, and during a period of his life that cannot be accounted for he might have known these grey uplands.

Many were discouraged from exploring the caves by the rumbling and grinding noises that were heard in wet spells, and by tales of systems tenanted by boggarts, trolls and fairies. In North Ribblesdale, people told how a miller kept his machinery running on a Sunday and was punished when his mill sank out of sight. If one stood by a shaft near Knight Stainforth—it is still called Robin Hood's Mill—a low rumbling sound could be heard. A boggart was said to haunt Hurtle Pot (Fig. 2), in Chapel-le-Dale, near Ingleton, and he drowned his victims in a deep pool at the bottom. There are tales too of the turbulent days of warfare between England and Scotland. When a number of silver coins dating back to the reign of Edward I were washed out of Ivescar Cave, Chapel-le-Dale, it was thought they were a portion of treasure hidden by local dalesfolk during the Scottish raids that followed Bannockburn. Gold coins, too, are said to have been washed out of the cave early last century.

In modern times the caves of north-west Yorkshire have not been used as permanent residences, although potholers, of whom there are many hundreds to-day, have spent short periods underground. For instance, when meets are held at Gaping Gill, the 340-foot-deep shaft on the flanks of Ingleborough, potholers invariably stay down below for days in a comparatively dry part of the system known as Sand Cavern.

Was there ever a time when everybody lived in caves—when all were cavemen? The late Sir Arthur Keith elaborated on this point when he addressed the first annual congress of the British Speleological Association at Buxton in 1936. He said: "The fact that traces of ancient man are so much better preserved in caves than elsewhere may tempt us to think this may have been so. Indeed, many people believe that such had been the case, but a full consideration of the evidence will convince us that this was never universal. . . Ancient man, like his modern descendants, apparently lived in fear and sought safety in caves; feudal barons did the same thing, substituting keeps and castles to serve the same purpose. Thus it is necessary, the farther our search takes us back into the realms of time, to supplement our cave records by those preserved for us in the deposits of valley and of shore."

Illustration 1, Telegraph and Argus, Bradford.



3.—A SKELETON FROM PREHISTORY: THE INGLEBOROUGH WOMAN, IN THE PIG YARD CLUB'S MUSEUM AT SETTLE. It was found in limestone clints on Ingleborough Mountain

TALKING ABOUT SALE-ROOMS

CHINESE HAWKS AND HOUNDS

By FRANK DAVI

QUITE a lot of Chinese cloisonné enamel leaves me stone cold, so tortured and over-elaborate, half Elizabethan, half Victorian it appears to be. Occasionally a few pieces appear in the auction-rooms that have some genuinely sculptural qualities, being enriched and not overwhelmed by colour and designed with something of the mediæval directness that makes early European bronzes so impressive. The two cloisonné enamel hawks of Fig. 1 seemed to me to qualify for full marks by these perhaps austere standards when I saw them at Christie's recently, when they were sold for 200 guineas. They are 18th-century incense burners, the wings forming the covers. The bodies are lapis blue, the breasts yellow and the tails yellow and turquoise. Their white wings have coloured tips and beaks and feet are gilded—the only gold about them.

The craft is almost as much (some will say wholly as much) a craft of the jeweller as that required to make any of the more delicate pieces designed for personal adornment throughout the ages—things like some odds and ends chosen more or less haphazard from a sale of



1.—18th-CENTURY CHINESE BRONZE INCENSE BURNERS IN THE FORM OF HAWKS. Decorated in cloisonné enamel. $7\frac{3}{4}$ ins. long. 200 gns. the pair

Renaissance jewellery at Sotheby's (Fig. 2). Descriptions must be given in some detail if the quality of such things is to be deduced from monochrome illustration. The gold lion pendant of Fig. 2A is of gold, with four small pearls suspended from its feet. The creature is treated heraldically and the chiselled mane retains traces of red enamel. The body has a hexagonal cell-diaper design in opaque white; the curved tail terminates in a red and green translucent enamel acanthus. The lion hangs from a double chain with pendant pearl and enamel link and realised £280; it is late-16th-century Venetian.

The little nef pendant of Fig. 2B is also enamelled gold. The hull is in black and white with seven pearl drops below; the sails are enamelled white and decorated with gold and pale blue lozenges and there are three square-rigged masts and a lantern sail on the mizzen. It is Sicilian, 17th-century, and realised £320 with a long gold chain of twisted gold with links. Fig. 2C shows a 16th-century Flemish polychrome ivory pendant carved in low relief. The Virgin sits on a gilt throne in a blue dress with the Child on her knee; the Child reaches forward to St. Catherine, who holds a palm branch and is dressed in pale pink. Above them God the Father, his hand raised in blessing. This was sold in a later silver locket frame for £210.

Fig. 2D shows an enamelled gold link from a necklace; it is German, 16th-century. In the centre is a table-cut diamond flanked by four pearls, and set in openwork gold scrolls enamelled in opaque white, translucent red and black. Two other nearly identical links are known, and also a necklace with very similar alternate links. This single one made £320. The pretty necklace of gold, pearls and garnets (Fig. 2E) was catalogued as 17th-century French. It was composed of nine large and eight smaller links all hung with pearl drops, the large links set with table-cut garnets within gold scroll work enamelled in translucent red and opaque white and turquoise. It seemed to me to be a more than ordinary enchanting object and found a new home at £500. The whole sale, made up from more than a hundred of this kind of endearing kickshaw, was as full of colour as one could wish, and it was pleasant for once in a way to see jewels appraised, not as rare stones but as works of art.

Considering the vast sums cheerfully given for modern paintings, it is hardly surprising that a baffled public consoles itself when it can with etchings, woodcuts and lithographs. One still has to dig very deeply into one's pocket for the rarer and more fashionable works: £1,400, for example, was paid for a set of 12 etchings of 1927 by Picasso—the artist and his model, one of Picasso's favourite themes. None the less, it is possible to obtain many good unpretentious but highly decorative prints for a few pounds, as witness a recent Sotheby's sale when the average price throughout



2.—RENAISSANCE JEWELLERY. A, 16th-century Venetian pendant, 3 ins. high, £280; B, 17th-century Sicilian pendant, 2 ins. high, £330; C, 16th-century Flemish pendant, 2 ins. high, £210; D, 16th-century German gold and pearl link, $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. across, £320; E, 17th-century French gold, pearl and garnet necklace, 10 ins. long, £500

ding the £1,400 for the single lot already mentioned, was £30. All sorts of things were from £1 to £270. Herewith are a few more samples. Etching by Augustus John, *Serving Maid*, £12; lithograph by Henri Matisse, *Odalisque assise à la jupe de Dentelle* (of a series of the year 1925), £110; six paintings by James McBey of Moroccan subjects, and a landscape by Camille Pissarro, £90 (etching *St. James's Street*, £12. Fig. 3 shows Marc Chagall's four-colour lithograph *Bouquet Vert*, one of an edition of 200, which realised £60. Chagall has an impeccably sensitive feeling for the nuances of colour. I have met people who write him off as a whimsical mountebank—a criticism that comes somewhat harshly from the countrymen of Lewis Carroll and of Edward Lear, with whose other-worldly dottiness the Russian exile has much in common. A beautiful lithograph by Matisse, *Nu Jambes croisées*, one of an edition of 50, fetched £60. Several very elaborate clocks, wall lights and candelabra in variously contrived marriages of porcelain and ormolu have been illustrated briefly in these notes. Readers can, I hope, do without yet another pair, very much out of



3.—*BOUQUET VERT*: A FOUR-COLOUR LITHOGRAPH BY MARC CHAGALL. 15 ins. by 22½ ins. £60



CHINESE BLUE-AND-WHITE DISH. 15th-century. 14½ ins.-diameter. £800

world, except to those so hard-hearted that they can see no virtue in 18th-century Paris. Fig. 5 shows one of a pair of Sèvres porcelain jardinières—in themselves notable examples—entwined with ormolu scroll branches. The jardinières have painted bouquets and delicate sprays of flowers; the painting is by two French workmen at the factory, Rosset and Leclercq; the porcelain bears the date letters for 1757 and 1758. Above the jardinières are ormolu vases with pierced borders support interlaced scrolling branches for seven lights, each with detachable nozzles and foliage wax pans. The vases, also Sèvres, painted in natural colours—a small point this, but a cunning means of avoiding an appearance of heaviness—the ormolu bases are pierced and chased with scrolling sprays and bulrushes, from which spring the branches entwined round the jardinières. They realised 3,000 guineas at Christie's.

Finally, a note about a minor—comparatively minor—sale at Sotheby's devoted only to Chinese ceramics, which happened to include the early-15th-century blue and white dish of Fig. 4, its centre painted with two full-blown peony blooms divided by buds. The exterior is decorated with a further band of eight peony blooms among scrolling leaves. This very example of early Ming Dynasty ware was found to welcome immediately at £800. An amusing and extremely well modelled pair of hounds was sold for the 18th-century European market

was sold for £900 (Fig. 6)—excellent, unsentimental beasts. Their teeth are bared, their feet are reddish-brown above and white beneath, they wear tassel-coloured collars and gilt bells, and are seated on their haunches. These were nearly two feet high. Two other canines from the same century, about a quarter the size, also made champion dog prices. One of them was a not-too-distant relation of a King Charles spaniel, lying down with head turned to one side; this was covered in a bright coral glaze with white patches, the paws with white tips picked out with black claws. The other was just unspecified Dog with a capital D, unglazed head with short turned-up muzzle and drooping jowl; it is seated on its haunches, very thoughtful about a very

bushy tail. The near-spaniel found a home at £280, the other at £190.

Mercifully not everything fit for civilised people is as expensive as that. Herewith a note about a group of Sung Dynasty celadons in this same sale. A small cosmetic box and a miniature oil jar, covered in olive-green and bluish glazes respectively, sold together for £15. A small bowl, the interior moulded with a flower beneath a grey-green glaze, made £18. A shallow dish covered by a brownish-green glaze sold for £12. A ewer, with mallet-shaped body, tall neck, everted mouth and two pierced phoenix-head handles on the neck covered with a bluish-green glaze, made £60. Among a few minor bronzes, a Han Dynasty ritual vessel, with a globular body with two rings at the side supported on a tall stem and a hollow conical foot, realised £20; and a bronze bell decorated with dragons in high relief pursuing flaming pearls amid clouds—a habit among the better-educated dragons—and a Han bronze canister and cover, the body decorated with stylised figures holding drawn bows and with bird-like figures—its original gold or silver inlay long since lost—made £26.



5.—ONE OF A PAIR OF LOUIS XV CANDELABRA. In Sèvres porcelain and ormolu. 24 ins. high. 3,000 gns. the pair. (Right) 6.—ONE OF A PAIR OF CHINESE PORCELAIN HOUNDS, 18th-CENTURY. "Excellent, unsentimental beasts." 22 ins. high. £900 + heart, 18½ years

CHOPIN IN BRITAIN'S MUSICAL LIFE

By ALASDAIR ALPIN MACGREGOR

ASSURANCES that the piano is on its way in again and that the British householder is no longer ashamed to have this manual instrument seen about the house reach us at a time when the Society for the Piano, formed last year under the presidency of Sir Malcolm Sargent, is making commendable efforts to stimulate interest in piano-playing, and the Edinburgh Festival has accorded to the music of Chopin a degree of attention probably unprecedented in this country. One learns that recordings of Chopin's music are pouring out from gramophone companies in every part of the world and continue to be best-sellers. Chopin as a composer and the piano as a musical instrument have never enjoyed such popularity, during the 20th century, as the present time.

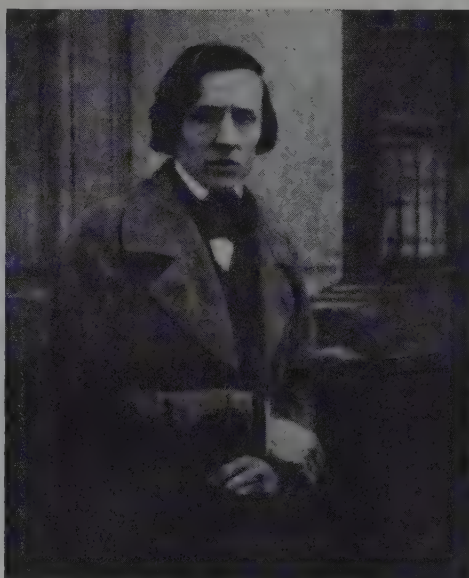
The public emphasis now placed upon piano-playing is due in large measure to the extraordinarily high standard of virtuosity it has encouraged. Private piano-playing in the home has largely declined. But there are welcome signs of a resuscitation in which the music of Chopin must inevitably play an integral part.

When lingering home towards Chelsea on June 21, 1949, I noticed a couple of workmen standing on a low scaffold. They were preparing in the wall outside No. 99, Eaton Place, a space into which they obviously were going to insert a memorial of some kind. When I asked what they were doing, one of them answered that they were about to install "a plaque to a bloke named Chopping wot played the piano in this 'ere 'ouse 101 year come Thursday." In this I expressed an almost personal interest, for Chopin's music has always occupied an important place in my life.

One of the workmen descended from the scaffold to show me the actual plaque. Its inscription read: "Fryderyk Chopin, 1810-1849, gave his first London concert in this house, June 23, 1848."

Presenting myself at the door of the house, I pleaded my interest in Chopin and his music to a lady who invited me to return two days later, when the Polish Ambassador in London was to unveil the plaque and a Polish pianist play Chopin's music, upstairs, in the very room in which he had given his first London recital 101 years earlier, and upon the very same piano—the Broadwood Grand specially manufactured for Chopin in 1848.

For some time, Chopin's friends, Miss Jane Stirling, of Keir, and her sister, Mrs.



1.—A DAGUERROTYPE OF CHOPIN, TAKEN SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEATH IN 1849

Erskine, had been trying to persuade him to come to England and to visit them in Scotland. Jane, who had been a pupil of his in Paris, made all the arrangements necessary and he duly came. The success of the Revolution had put an end to his giving piano lessons in Paris; and, consequently, there was no saying when he would be in a position to earn any money again.

On June 15, 1848, *The Times* announced that "Monsieur Chopin will give a *Matinée Musicale* at 99, Eaton Place, on Friday, June, 23rd, to commence at 3 o'clock. A limited number of tickets, One Guinea each."

Among the 150 notables present was Jenny Lind. Jenny, we are told, would have sung for Chopin on this occasion, had he but asked her. Too weak and ill to render anything strenuous, Chopin confined his recital to the *Berceuse*, a few *Nocturnes*, *Etudes* and *Mazurkas*, and the first two *Waltzes* of *Opus 64*. Remembering all this, it was not without emotion that, on June 23, 1949, I listened to his music, played on the same Broadwood, placed precisely where it had been the afternoon Chopin himself played on it there.

Whenever I cross the Water o' Leith at the Canonmills of Edinburgh my eyes are unconsciously diverted along the adjacent Warriston Crescent. I always imagine that one day I may see Chopin afoot upon this crescent's pavement or perhaps turning in rather languidly at No. 10, the old home of his friend and countryman, Dr. Adam Lyschinski. Here the pianist spent most of his time during his sojourn in the Scottish capital, the Lyschinskis having been obliged to find accommodation for their children in a house near by in order to make room for their distinguished guest. The children's nursery was converted into a bedroom for the virtuoso's valet. On fine days Chopin drove round Edinburgh with Madame Lyschinski. After dinner, he would sit pensively by the drawing-room fire, feeling rather cold. Then suddenly he would seat himself at the piano on which he played until he felt warm.

It was Madame Lyschinski who supplied Professor Niecks with an account of the composer's stay in Edinburgh. "Chopin rose very late . . . and had soup in his room. His hair was curled daily by his servant. His shirts, boots, and other things were of the neatest—in fact, he was a *petit-maitre*, more vain in dress than any woman."

On the evening of October 4, 1848, Chopin gave a recital in the Hopetoun Rooms, the site of which is now occupied by the Mary Erskine School for Girls. Jane Stirling, fearing for her teacher a poor attendance, purchased £50 worth of tickets. This explained how the audience that evening consisted mainly of the Scottish landed gentry. The piano on which he played was afterwards sold for £30 above its original price.

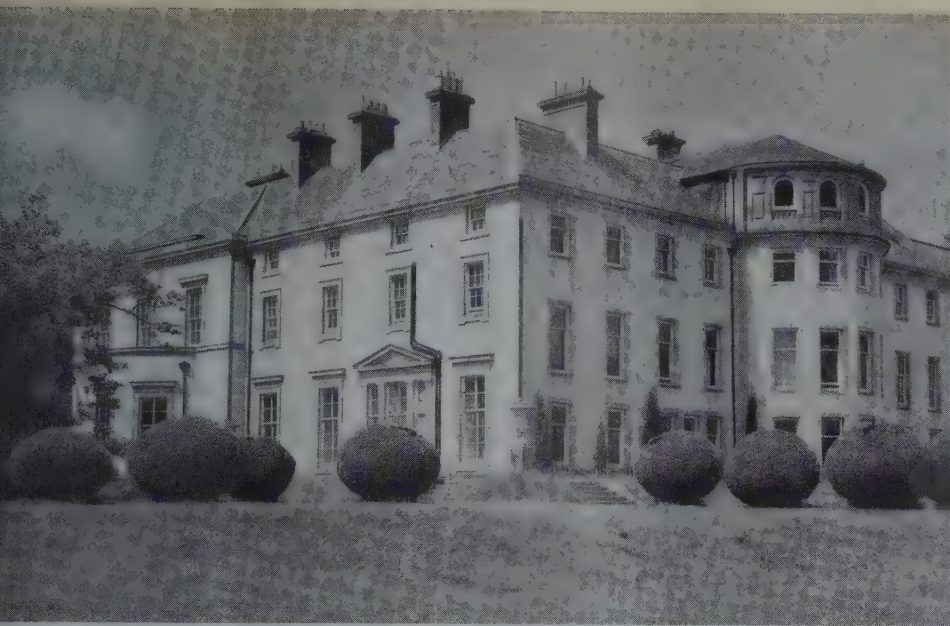
The 100th anniversary of Chopin's Edinburgh recital, as also of his stay with the Lyschinskis, was commemorated on October 4, 1948, when a bronze plaque was placed on the wall at 10, Warriston Crescent. A month earlier, during the Edinburgh Music Festival, Alfred Cortot, supreme exponent of Chopin's works, gave a recital reconstructed from Chopin's programme in the Hopetoun Rooms of a century before. Cortot's playing carried one off into the world of ghosts. The exquisite sounds falling from the fingers of this already frail and aged pianist were as the echoes from ghostly fingers.

One afternoon Chopin gave a recital in Glasgow. It was held in the Merchant's Hall in Hutcheson Street. Among those present was Dr. James Hedderwick, who tells us that in answer to his enquiry as to what was afoot, a



2.—

B, 17NO. 99, EATON PLACE, S.W.1., WHERE, IN 1848, CHOPIN GAVE HIS FIRST LONDON CONCERT. A commemorative £210; 1s is on the wall of the house. (Right) 3.—THE PIANO ON WHICH CHOPIN PLAYED AT THE CONCERT. It stands on the spot where the recital was given



4.—KEIR HOUSE, STIRLINGSHIRE, WHERE CHOPIN WAS THE GUEST OF THE STIRLINGS. "His stay there was a dismal one"

policeman at the door of the hall, whose energies were fully employed in shooing away a number of youths, informed him that a Mr. Chopin was giving a concert. The hall was about a third full. The audience again was an aristocratic one. Doubtless Miss Jane Stirling and his sister had distributed tickets for this performance also.

Dr. Hedderwick describes the pianist as "a fragile-looking man, in pale grey suit, including, frock-coat of identical tint and texture, moving about among the company, conversing with different groups, and occasionally consulting his watch which seemed 'In shape no bigger than an agate-stone on the forefinger of an alderman.'"

"Whiskerless, beardless, fair of hair, and pale and thin of face, his appearance was interesting and conspicuous . . . It was a drawing-room entertainment, more *piano* than *forte*, though not without occasional episodes of both strength and grandeur."

Hedderwick concludes his account on a sad note. "Poor Chopin! It was clear to me that he was early marked for doom." So soon afterwards he was to be laid where neither praise nor criticism could reach him.

Chopin's stay in Scotland was attended by external circumstances more comfortable than had been the lot of Mendelssohn, 20 years earlier. Yet scarcely a day was he free from melancholy.

On his arrival at Calder House, Midlothian, as the guest of Lord Torphichen, brother-in-law of Jane Stirling, there awaited him in his room a Broadwood piano and also the Pleyel belonging to Miss Jane. The atmosphere here he found congenial—so much so that he wished he had been able to compose a little, "were it only to please these good ladies."

In September he moved on to Keir House, Stirlingshire, seat of the Stirlings. His host was Sir William Stirling, Jane Stirling's uncle, a well-known connoisseur and critic. He wrote the *Annals of the Artists of Spain*, and also a volume on Velasquez. Chopin's stay at Keir was a dismal one. He complained of the Scottish weather. Everything was doubly splendid at Keir—kindness, splendid pianos, beautiful pictures, choice libraries. Everything except the sun!

The Stirlings did all they could for his guest. They even arranged that the Paris newspapers should reach him during his stay in Scotland. Nevertheless, Chopin paints a gloomy picture of his routine at Keir.

"I am all the morning unable to do anything, and when I have dressed myself, I feel again so fatigued that I must rest. After dinner I must sit for two hours with the gentlemen, hear what they say, and see how much they drink. Meanwhile I feel bored to death. I think of something different, and then I go to the

drawing-room, where I require all my strength to revive, for all are anxious to hear me [play]. Afterwards my good Daniel [his valet] carries me upstairs to my bedroom, undresses me, puts me to bed, leaves the candle burning, and then I am at liberty to sigh and to dream till morning."

Nowhere in the world is the music of Chopin more appreciated than in Paris, the city where he lived, where he taught, where he composed so much and where he died. A tablet affixed to the wall of No. 12, Place Vendôme, unfortunately so high above the pavement that it can be seen only by those who know just where to look for it, bears the inscription:

FRÉDÉRIC-FRANÇOIS CHOPIN
NE À ZELAZOWA-WOLA (POLOGNE)
LE 22 FEVRIER 1810
EST MORT DANS CETTE MAISON
LE 17 OCTOBRE 1849

On the morning Chopin died the sculptor Clésinger came to the house to take casts of his face and hands. Chopin, with difficulty, had scribbled on a piece of paper just before he expired his last wish: "As this earth will suffocate me, I beseech you to have my body opened, so that I may not be buried alive." His heart, placed in an urn, was sent to Warsaw. The rest of him found repose in Père-Lachaise, at a spot marked by a monument unveiled on the first anniversary of his death. It was erected by his friends in response to a subscription opened for the purpose by a committee over which Camille Pleyel presided.

In Pleyel's premises in the Rue François one may see the piano made at the Pleyel factory in 1839 and lent to Chopin.

At no time has it been audible to so many discerning ears that Chopin created a series of piano sounds original and unique—sounds so exquisite as to establish him as, perhaps, the greatest of all thinkers in keyboard harmonics.

In so doing, he altered completely the pattern of musical thought and bequeathed to us a corpus of piano music of a texture clearly justifying his being regarded as the Shelley of music, a description of him recalling Browning's wonder and admiration:

*Ah, did you once see Shelley plain,
And did he stop and speak to you
And did you speak to him again?
How strange it seems, and new!*

Though I revere Shelley for just that quality I revere in Chopin, I rather think I would have preferred to hear Chopin at the piano. The observation made by the music critic of *The Times* on the centenary of Chopin's death was well merited. The critic wrote that Chopin had done more for the piano than Weber had done for the opera, than Schumann had done for song or Berlioz for the orchestra; more on the strictly quantitative sense of additions to the repertoire and more, also, in the sense that he revealed an unsuspected enlargement of the piano's resources. No longer is he regarded as the spoilt darling of effete drawing-rooms, the legendary favourite of the fashionable.

On October 17, 1849, Frederic Chopin, another Adonais, "out-soared the shadow of our night." Only a poet of Shelley's sensitivity could have immortalised on the printed page our grief that he should have lain dead at 39. The contemplation of what he might have achieved by way of output of the highest order had he lived a few more years, even in indifferent health, is truly heartrending.

Of all the eulogies showered upon Chopin by friends and admirers, that which gets nearest the heart of things is Eugène Delacroix's, recorded in that artist's diary after an evening visit to him on April 22, 1849:

Homme exquis pour le coeur, et je n'ai pas besoin de dire pour l'esprit.

In recalling Delacroix's duotone likeness of Chopin in the Louvre, executed in 1838 when Chopin was 28, one cannot but regret that, as a result of his frequent visits to the dying composer a decade later, he did not bequeath to us something comparable with Joseph Severn's head of the dying Keats.

Illustrations: 1, J. M. Dent and Sons; 2-5, the author.



5.—CHOPIN'S TOMB AT PERE-LACHAISE, PARIS. His heart, placed in an urn, was sent to Warsaw, where he lived in his early years

THE WELSH RUGBY REVIVAL

By O. L. OWEN

IT was Wales after all, not England, who re-discovered—at Cardiff last Saturday—the way to win a hard rugby match attractively. England no doubt were a sad disappointment. But, equally so, Wales were a delightful surprise, not only in scoring two brilliant tries to one and holding out after the loss of their clever centre, C. A. H. Davies, through injury, but in showing they had recalled and recognised the lesson that effective back-play is practically impossible without sound scrummaging. One likes to think that Wales acted upon the instructive example of Newport against the Fifth Springboks ten days earlier. Certainly, on this occasion, they owed much to their new pack leader, G. Davidge, the Newport forward.

The Cardiff crowd were unusually silent in the hour or so before the kick-off—there were the merest murmurs of such popular battle chants as *Sospan Fach*—and one could hardly help wondering why. It was not, one thinks, solely due to the fear of defeat by England.



A. O'CONNOR, THE WELSH SCRUM-HALF, KEEPING POSSESSION OF THE BALL AS ENGLISH PLAYERS CHALLENGE IN THE INTERNATIONAL RUGBY MATCH AT CARDIFF ON SATURDAY, WHICH WALES WON BY 6 POINTS TO 3. The Welsh player on O'Connor's right is P. Rees, who is blocking R. W. D. Marques, of England

Nor was a Welsh crowd likely to be depressed by lowering clouds and the obviously heavy going underfoot; rather the reverse. A much more probable reason was the memory of that recent defeat by South Africa by a penalty goal to nothing. The margin, as measured in points, had been insignificant. Not so the oppressive evidence of pack inferiority to the Springbok scrummaging machine.

Welshmen, even more than Englishmen, wanted no more of that—whatever else happened. From everyone's point of view, this match was in the nature of a trial of the rugby game as it has been developing in the last few years—when the kicking of penalty goals has largely ousted the scoring of tries, above all those tries that come from combined back-play, as a means of deciding matches.

To show that this is not merely a reflection upon rugby as played by the South Africans in their international engagements, it should be mentioned that in the six matches between England and Wales from 1955 to 1960, only six tries had been touched down as compared with the kicking of eight penalty goals. Two of the games were decided by a single penalty and one drawn by a penalty goal to a try. The crowd may well have been pondering over those depressing facts as well as the fifth defeat by South Africa and the feeling that unless some answer could be found to power rugby—happily Newport had very nearly provided part

of the answer—Welsh rugby would have to accept failure as a matter of course.

It must be said at once that neither side, in the first ten minutes after the kick-off, did much to encourage the crowd to cheer. Most of the noises off stage consisted of roars of frustration. It was, indeed, exasperating to watch a surprising number of quick, clean heels totally wasted by querulous, unimaginative kicking. Even allowing for sparring tactics, as in a boxing match, it was a sorry spectacle.

Mercifully, that did not last long and, once the ice was broken, Wales especially sprang into brilliant action. The English backs were on the move more than once, but, in an otherwise commendable desire to make use of Young's great speed on the right flank, passed on the ball at least two strides too soon. Once, early in the game, this obviously deprived Young of a clear and probably dangerous run. But mostly, the

discarded R. A. W. Sharp, cut almost straight across field, taking his opposite number with him. Richards thereupon out-maneuvred Rismann by giving a quite remarkable pass in reverse to C. Davies, who streaked with it across to the left. There Davies found his fellow club centre Roberts and the well-known D. I. (Dewi) Bebb well placed in support. Bebb, who has few equals as a swift runner-in, completed a move that was executed so perfectly and at such a pace that the defence was well beaten. Incidentally, the speed of the whole match was surprising, considering the soggy state of the playing pitch.

T. J. Davies, who had already failed with a penalty shot from 50 yards, found the range and angle too much for him in trying to convert this try, but by now Wales, fore and aft, were playing like a winning team. Keeping up the pressure at top speed, and again bringing off an attack in reverse from right to left, the Welsh backs swept through the opposing defence and amid delirious cheering Bebb crossed the goal-line wide out. Then, it became evident that it was no try after all. The Welsh touch-judge, that highly competent referee D. G. Walters, had spotted a previous step into touch and it spoke volumes for the new Welsh optimism that not a murmur of disapproval greeted his up-raised flag.

As it happened, moreover, Bebb got his second try with splendid dash before the change of ends and only the sight of a badly limping C. Davies raised any element of doubt about Wales's ability to win the match. The doubt grew a little when Davies only limped on for a while as a passenger in the second half, one of the pack, H. J. Morgan, having to take his place in the three-quarter line.

It was now that the Welsh improvement in scrummaging and line-out play became evident beyond all doubt. Try as they did, the eight English forwards could not turn the scales against their seven opponents. Never can a player of the calibre of P. G. D. Robbins have failed so often as spoiler and coverer. In the line-out, R. W. D. Marques, without his old companion Currie, all but vanished from the picture.

It was in sudden breaks away that England began to extend opponents who had had their own attacking powers disrupted by the loss of their best centre. Wales had now lost much of the momentum that served them so well in the first period and, in the open, England at last began to exploit the great speed and dash of Young. The Welsh stand-off player under severe pressure had a kick charged down; the English centres seized their chance and sent Young racing for the goal-line. An extended defence had little chance of stopping him; Young just shot ahead as if he was being propelled by a jet engine. Gavins was given the difficult chance of making the score 6-5—which really would have made the crowd think—but he was quite unable to oblige.

This had occurred when some 25 minutes still remained for play and at times the English effort became really dangerous, not that the Welsh tackling and falling on the ball ever offered the kind of chances that come from panic. One magnificent tackle of Young when he looked all but through added to Welsh claims to be deserving winners. Indeed, but for the loss of Davies, the chances are they would have scored another try or so against an England team so moderately served at forward and full-back.

But perhaps it is not being too smug to declare that the chief victor on Saturday was not so much Wales as the rugby game itself. It was a great joy to watch so much fast and clever running and handling, with plenty of effective forward play as well, on heavy going. It remains to be seen if Wales can follow up their best all-round display for some years. If they do, they will be strong claimants for the Triple Crown England have lost for a while. The English selectors will have to do a lot of hard and constructive thinking if their second choices are to win in Dublin and hold the new France and the courageous Scots at Twickenham.

CING NOTES

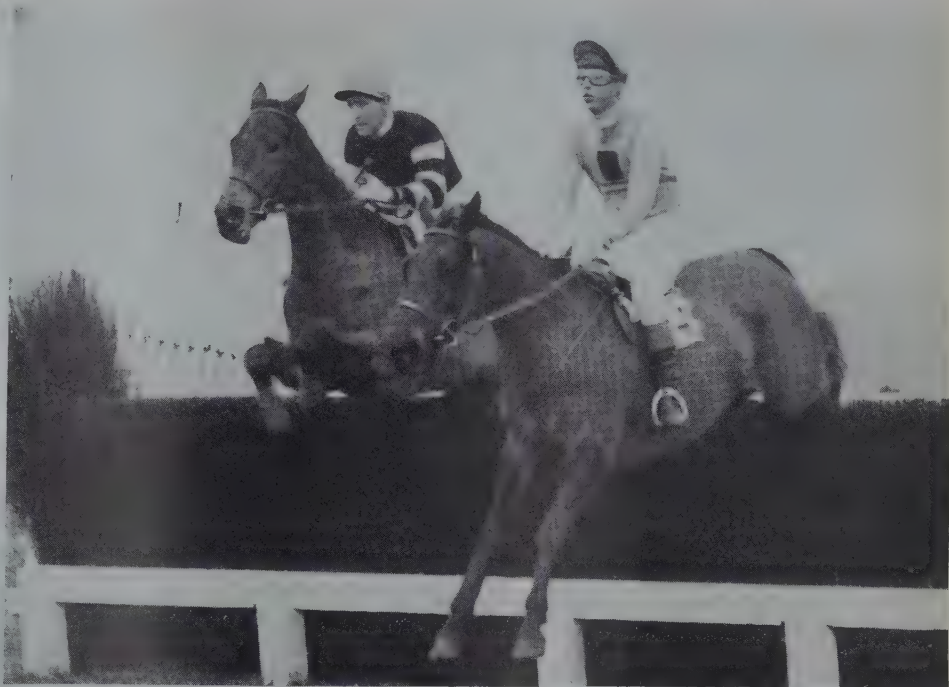
THE STEEPLECHASE-JOCKEY PROBLEM

By DARE WIGAN

At the time of Lord Hawke amateur and professional cricketers occupied separate dressing-rooms, and until quite recently the million at Lord's boasted a "gentlemen's" and "players'" exit, so that as the fielding side touched on to the field it was by no means unusual to witness the captain, accompanied, perhaps, by one other player of amateur status, ascending the steps from the Long Room in a state of splendid, and no doubt embarrassed, confusion. As far as I know, such distinctions have never been drawn in steeplechasing, but the question is now being raised as to whether a large number of mounts—the figure has been calculated to be in the region of 3,000 in an average season—given to amateurs riding under National Hunt Rules is unfair to the professionals, who, compared to those who race on the flat, are grossly underpaid.

The complaint has been advanced that owners and trainers, rather than pay for the services of the ordinary professional jockey, persistently engage one of a number of keen, competent amateurs; and fuel for the fire was added by the results of the Christmas Holiday steeplechases, when no fewer than 13 individual amateurs rode at least one winner each. But when one considers that 12 meetings took place between December 26 and 27, the argument loses a great deal of its force, inasmuch as there were very few professional riders to go round, and to which several of the amateurs who were members of family concerns, though as keen as anyone else to win races, are permit-holders as opposed to professional trainers who rely on the sport for their living. For instance, on December 27 at Sandown, where amateurs won four of the six races, Mr. P. Slade and Mr. J. Renfree were riding family horses, and, with the possible exception of that young prodigy, Sir William Pigott-Brown, the other amateurs who were successful do not ride regularly.

In fact, I suspect that Sir William may unwittingly be the nigger in the woodpile, for he has had a truly remarkable percentage of successes this season. But what people seem to have overlooked is the fact that, though he has ridden 11 winners, he has, at the time of writing, had only 17 mounts, including five on his own gelding, Newby, so that no one can justly accuse him of taking the bread and butter of the professionals. Nevertheless, in view of his popularity, it is natural that those who espouse the cause of the professionals should be apprehensive.



SIR W. PIGOTT-BROWN, ON CERTAIN JUSTICE, LEADING D. V. DICK ON PAS SEUL IN A HURST PARK STEEPLECHASE. The author says that Sir William Pigott-Brown's remarkable success could be one of the reasons why it may be felt that amateur riders under National Hunt Rules are getting too many mounts

I do not profess to know what Sir William's intentions are. I do know that at the moment he is living next door to F. Cundell's stables at Blewbury in Berkshire, rides out regularly at work and is dedicated to steeplechasing. The fact that he takes the occupation seriously, allied to his natural skill, means that the growing number of people who follow his mounts know that they are getting a run for their money.

But that does not answer the questions whether it is desirable that amateur jockeys in general should be allowed to ride as often as they do and whether, if they are permitted to do so, those who employ them should not contribute a professional's normal riding fee to the National Hunt Accident Fund.

I think that restrictions would be unreasonable, inasmuch as National Hunt racing is essentially a family affair, a large number of

the horses engaged in it being owned and trained by sporting farmers, who have been used to putting up sons or nephews, or sons or nephews of friends and neighbours, who ride the animals regularly at work. These owners, I am convinced, do not engage amateurs in order to save the seven guineas' riding fee received by professional jockeys; indeed, I believe that, if they were asked to do so, many of them would cheerfully remit that sum to the Accident Fund as long as they retained the right to put up the rider of their choice. In any case, the National Hunt Committee keep a careful eye on proceedings, and if they feel that an amateur is overstepping the mark and accepting too many mounts outside his own stable they are apt to enquire politely whether he would care to become a professional. In fact, a number of first-class amateurs, including M. Scudamore, who won the Grand National of 1959 on Oxo and the valuable Mildmay Memorial Chase at Sandown Park on January 14, have changed their status.

However, discussions as to whether the large number of competent amateur riders is, in fact, operating to the detriment of the gallant band of professional jockeys of average ability—riders of the calibre of F. Winter, S. Mellor and W. Rees are not concerned as they get all the riding they require—may cease next month when the National Hunt Committee considers a request from steeplechase jockeys to review their pay. There is, of course, no threat of a strike. Nevertheless, the fact is that, although a steeplechase jockey receives seven guineas for a ride and three guineas more for a win, compared to a flat-racing jockey's five guineas for a mount and an additional two guineas for a win, he is far worse off than if he operated on the flat. This is because of the customary gift by an owner to a jockey after he has won a race, usually 10 per cent. of the stake. As races on the flat are worth a great deal more than those run under National Hunt Rules, this means that a Lester Piggott can earn anything up to £50,000 in a season, whereas an F. Winter is lucky if he can notch £5,000. The difference is out of all proportion to the skill and the risks entailed, and though steeplechasing is a "poor man's sport," compared to flat racing, most people will hope that some way can be found towards equalising the rewards of the active participants.



F. WINTER, ON FLAME GUN, AHEAD OF W. REES, ON DOUBLE STAR, IN A STEEPLECHASE AT SANDOWN PARK. Riders of Winter's calibre, says the author, get the mounts they want, yet they receive only a fraction of a leading flat-race jockey's income



1.—THE GREY, GABLED HOUSE SEEN FROM THE HILL SIDE ABOVE THE WALLED ENCLOSURE

SNITTERTON HALL, DERBYSHIRE—I

THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. F. E. G. BAGSHAWE

By ARTHUR OSWALD

One of the best of the old halls of Derbyshire, Snitterton lies in Darley Dale not far from Matlock. Up to 1596 the manor was held by the Snittertons and their successors, the Sacheverells. It is uncertain who was the builder of the house.



2.—LOOKING THROUGH THE ARCH IN THE FORECOURT WALL

THE old halls and manor houses of Derbyshire and other northern counties, compared with their equivalents in the Cotswolds, Somerset and Dorset, may often appear plain, reserved, unrefined, sometimes crude. They might indeed be considered to correspond broadly with the northerner's character and outlook when contrasted with their southern counterparts. But any such generalisation ignores the fact that Renaissance ideas and ideals, diffused from London, were much slower in penetrating the more backward North than most of the southern counties. It also fails to take into account what materials were available to the masons who built the houses. In the North there were few, if any, freestones of the quality of those obtainable in the oolite region, and it is along the broad belt of the oolite that the vernacular architecture of Tudor and Stuart times attained its peak of accomplishment. In Sussex and in Devon and Cornwall the standard hardly ever rose higher than the level reached in the North, and often fell far short of it.

When all this has been said, the fact remains that in looking at a house such as Snitterton one is immediately conscious of its northern breeding. It is an exceptionally good example of its kind, "a real gem," as Dr. Pevsner has called it, and it is for the most part built of the fine Darley Dale stone, quarried across the valley, although round to the west side a little of the rather inferior limestone, also local, has been used, and also in the forecourt wall. But this could not have been a Cotswold house, which would have had stonework lighter in tone and steeper gables, rising probably from haunches at the angles and having the coping more emphatically moulded. And the entrance doorway would have been less primitive in its rendering of classic ornament. Nevertheless, there is a real feeling for proportion in this front; the window openings are well grouped and spaced, and though traditional planning of hall and entrance prevented the symmetry of the wings from being applied also to the recessed centre, the front is not thrown out of balance. Two continuous string courses, returning round the ends, tie the composition together and serve as dripstones to the windows, those in the gables having their own "eye-brows" set at the same interval above them.

Snitterton lies at the south end of Darley Dale, and the house faces into the slope of the limestone ridge of that, rising to a height of more than a thousand feet, shuts in the dal south-westward. If you come from the south through the Matlock gorge, you take a lane that goes up steeply left-handed at Matlock Bridge station. Keeping to the lower slopes of the ridge, you come after a mile and a half to the hamlet of Snitterton, but before that is reached the Hall is picked out standing higher up by itself on the left. A short ascent then brings you to the house, which, like other old halls in Derbyshire, lies behind a walled enclosure with an arched entrance (Fig. 1). At the south-west corner of this forecourt there is a little pavilion, reached by a terrace, and there was formerly a corresponding one, traces of which remain, to the south-east.



THE ENTRANCE FRONT FROM THE PAVED TERRACE ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE FORECOURT GARDEN. The house faces south towards the rising slope of the limestone ridge

of the house are the old farm buildings (Fig. 9). The whole up, on the edge of the moorland and protected by trees to north and east, is delightfully secluded and self-contained. The house just falls within the boundary of the Peak National Park, which then crosses Darley Dale but excludes Matlock. In Domesday Book Snitterton appears as Sinitreton. Its name, meaning Snytra's *tun* or settlement, implies Saxon occupation. Along with Matlock (which the Domesday clerks gave as Meslach) and four other berewicks it belonged to the manor of Mestresforde, which has been identified as the predecessor of Matlock Bridge. The manor, which had a lead mine on it and was of very considerable extent, was stated to be ancient. The parish church of Snitterton was Darley, beside the town, two miles to the north.

From an early period the manor was held by a family which took Snitterton as its surname. It is believed to have come from a younger branch of the Shirleys, whose ancestor was a Domesday tenant in Derbyshire, Sewal, also written as Saswold, but absolute proof is lacking. Jordan de Snitterton, living in the 13th century, gave a small annual rent to the monks of Darley Abbey and is named in charters of Henry II's reign. In the time of the first two Edwards the owner was Robert de Snitterton, who seems to have had a son and grandson of the same name. By 1453 the manor was in the possession of John Sacheverell. It is not known how or when his family acquired it, but as the Sacheverells quartered the arms of Snitterton they presumably obtained it by marriage with the heiress. One of the old and quite unreliable Sacheverell pedigrees gives Matthew Sacheverell as having married the daughter and heir of Snitterton, but impossibly far back.

The Sacheverells had held an estate in Hopwell, east of Derby, since Henry III's reign, and by successful marriages and purchases of land they became one of the important county families. John's son and successor, Ralph Sacheverell, died in 1488 holding the manors of Hopwell and Boulton in Derbyshire, as well as that of Snitterton, where he seems to have lived. His heir was his grandson, Henry, a boy of 13, whose father, John, had been killed at Bosworth. This John Sacheverell had married Joan Statham, the heiress of Morley, which became the Sacheverells' principal seat. In Morley there is a long succession of their memorials, beginning with the brass of John who lost his life "*in bello Ricardi tercii a bosworth.*"

Snitterton during Henry's minority seems to have been occupied by his great-uncle William, who in a deed of 1508 is described as "late of Sneterton." In 1513 Henry was knighted, probably at or after the Battle of the Spurs. He was Sheriff of Derbyshire in 1530 and 1541 and lived until 1558, having made Morley his seat. One of his younger sons, Robert, may have been living at Snitterton, since he described himself as of "Darley" (i.e. Darley) in his will made in 1547. Sir Henry was succeeded by his grandson, John, son of John, his eldest son, who had died in his father's lifetime.

Like the Fitzherberts of Norbury, to which family the younger John's wife belonged, the Sacheverells clung to the

old faith after Queen Elizabeth's accession. In 1561 John was lodged in a London gaol as a recusant. Not long after his release he decided to leave the country and live abroad. Departing on April 28, 1563, he never returned and died at Brussels thirty years later. These details are recorded in the findings of the inquisitions on his lands held after his death. Before he left, he enfeoffed three trustees in his Derbyshire manors of Morley, Hopwell, Snitterton, Callow and Boulton and his Leicestershire manor of Saddington and most of his other lands, to his own use during his lifetime and after his death to the use of his son, Henry, and his heirs. But in 1571, under an Act of Parliament directed against recusants, his estates were forfeited to the Crown because he had left the realm and was living in foreign parts contrary to the statutes. In 1576, however, his son, Henry, then of Gray's Inn, was granted the lands during his father's lifetime for an annual payment of £200.

Five years later, Henry himself was in trouble. Edmund Campion, the Jesuit, after his capture, revealed under torture the names of certain sympathisers in whose houses he had been harboured. One of them was Henry Sacheverell, who was then living at Hopwell. He was summoned to appear before the



4.—A CLOSE-UP OF THE ENTRANCE DOORWAY, EMBODYING NAIVELY RENDERED RENAISSANCE FEATURES



5.—LOOKING WEST FROM A CORNER OF THE LAWN

Star Chamber, but on making his submission and giving an undertaking henceforth to "resorte unto the church to heare Divine Service and sermons as shoulde become good and dutiful subjects," he was discharged with a caution. Thereafter until his death, which took place in 1620, he seems to have conformed, at any rate outwardly. After his father's death the forfeiture ceased to operate, and he came into absolute possession of his estates. Probably because he was in need of ready money, he sold his manor of Snitterton in 1596 for the sum of £400.

The purchasers were John Shore and his wife, Margaret. In 1627 their son John and his wife, Mary, sold the whole manor to Thomas and Isaac Smith, gents, and in 1631 Thomas and Edward Smith sold a moiety of it to John Milward. The other moiety continued in the Smiths' possession until 1713 and remained separate afterwards. It is with the Milward portion that we are concerned. John Milward belonged to a younger branch of a Derbyshire family, originally of yeoman status, that had been established for several generations at Eaton in Lower Dovedale, north-east of Uttoxeter. John's great-grandfather, Henry, had a leasehold at Dovebridge (now Doveridge), east of Uttoxeter, and his father, John, was of Bradley Ash, near Ashbourne, which he had been left by an uncle, Robert. John senior, who died in 1633, had done well for himself. He had married a sister of Sir Thomas Pope Blount, had bought the manor of Thorpe in Dovedale and in 1620 had been Sheriff of Derbyshire. His son was Sheriff in 1635. In the Civil War the latter was



6.—THE FORECOURT GARDEN AND THE REMAINING PAVILION. Part of the high ridge shutting in Darley Dale is seen in the distance



7.—THE LONG BOWLING-GREEN BELOW THE GARDEN

colonel of a foot regiment under the Earl of Newcastle and therefore had to compound for his estates. He was fined £1,000 and given a pardon. The county committee had recommended a moderate fine because he had restrained his soldiers from plundering. He died in 1670 and was buried at Darley, where there is a monument to him and his wife, Anne Whitehalgh. His elder son, John, who died without issue the year before, is also commemorated. By taking as his second wife Joyce Sacheverell he married into the family to which Snitterton had formerly belonged. The second son, Henry, succeeded but he also left no children, and after his death in 1681, the estates were divided among his sisters. The Snitterton moiety went to Felicia and her husband Charles Adderley, who in 1695 sold it to Henry Ferne.

Unfortunately, there are no dates, inscriptions or heraldry to tell us by whom the Hall was built. In some notes on Snitterton among the Wolley MSS. in the British Museum there is a copy of a rental of 1586 (Add. MS. 6773, f.42) of "all that Mr. Zacheverell makes of his lordship of Snitterton." The total return was £145 12s. The Hall, with its orchard and

yards, was estimated to be "well worth" £20; in addition, there were four farms. It is tempting to identify the Hall with the present house, but in that case it could only recently have been built, and by Henry Sacheverell himself, for architectural features rule out a date much before 1580. Henry Sacheverell had houses at Morley and Hopwell, and he is unlikely to have been able to build a new house at Snitterton until after his father's death, whereupon, as we have seen, he sold the manor. Garner and Stratton, in their *Domestic Architecture of England during the Tudor Period*, suggest a date about the end of the 16th century. This would imply that it was built by the elder John Shore.

A further possibility, which cannot be excluded, is that it was built by John Milward. In their style the old halls of Derbyshire, like those of Yorkshire, tend to lag behind the times, and several examples comparable with Snitterton bear dates in Charles I's reign. Some indeed are post-Restoration. The dates for Derby Hall (now submerged by the Ladybot reservoir) and Eyam Hall are 1672 and 1673. The regularity of the design and the small dimensions of the hall at Snitterton are quite consistent with a date in Charles I's reign, as is the treatment of the windows, the mullions of which have the ovolo and not the hollow chaffer. About a quarter of a mile to the north-east, lower down the lane, there is a building known



—THE BACK OF THE HOUSE, SHOWING THE ADDITION MADE 50 YEARS AGO. (Right) 9.—OLD FARM BUILDINGS TO THE WEST OF THE HOUSE

the old manor house, which seems to have one with the moiety of the manor retained by the Smiths and may in fact be the diminished successor of the mediæval manor house. Having bought his moiety, John Milward may have built an entirely new house on a virgin site or on the site of one of the old farms.

Certainly the house appears to have been built new from the foundations. When one goes down to the cellar under the old kitchen, now the dining-room, one finds, however, there is a late 15th-century door-head of four-centred outline. But this appears to have been an old piece of stonework re-used, taken from an earlier house or possibly from the chapel of the chantry at Snitterton which was suppressed at the Reformation. If Milward was the builder of the house, one cannot help feeling that the entrance doorway, with its naive Ionic volutes and skimpy little columns, is almost unbelievably archaic (Fig. 4). But the suspicion arises that here again, for reasons of economy, an older feature, in this case Elizabethan, may have been saved from an earlier building and re-used. It has the appearance of being crushed in between the windows that flank it. The bog sunk panel over the arch frames four squares carved with conventionalised plants in very low relief. The second and third are the oak and the rose, the fourth seems to be intended for a vine with grapes, but the first has defied identification.

Henry Ferne, the purchaser of 1695, belonged to a local family. He held the office of Receiver-General of the Customs, and no doubt it proved lucrative, for he was able to buy up much property in the neighbourhood. After his death, in 1723, Snitterton went to his daughter Elizabeth, who was married to Edmund Turnor, of Stoke Rochford, Lincolnshire. It is unlikely that she lived at Snitterton, but she made alterations to the house, perhaps for a bailiff. The lead down-pipes in the angles of the front bear the date 1747 and the Ferne crest, a garb or wheat-sheaf. Several Georgian stone chimney-pieces were probably inserted at this time. One in a bedroom is illustrated in Fig. 11. Two staircases were put in at either end of the house, and these are connected by passages formed by taking space at the backs of the rooms. In consequence, the hall, to the right of the entrance hall, was diminished in width, and as a panelled partition has replaced the screens, it is now quite a small sitting-room (Fig. 10). Henry Ferne had added a wing at the back of the house (seen on the right of Fig. 8). A bedroom here has a bolection-moulded fireplace of about 1700.

The Hall had become a farm-house by the time the Lysons published their volume on Derbyshire in 1817, when it was still in Turnor ownership. It remained a farm-house until 1908, in which year it was bought by Lt.-Col. B. G. Davie, Mr. Bagshawe's predecessor. He

built on to the back of the house the battlemented block with the large mullioned window, which lights a new staircase (Fig. 8). Bath-rooms, a new kitchen and an extra bedroom were accommodated in this addition, and the intention was to build two wings projecting at right angles, but the outbreak of the first World War cut short the work, and it has remained unfinished. The battlements were copied from those on the front, which, however, appear to have been 18th- or early-19th-century additions or replacements. The brief account of the house in Britton and Brayley's *Beauties of England and Wales* (1802) describes it as having wings with "embattled sides," but no mention is made of battlements on the front.

The gardens make a delightful setting for the house. On the west side of the forecourt there is a paved terrace with dry-stone walls prettily planted (Fig. 3). Grass plots with neat box-edged rose borders occupy the spaces on each side of the path to the front door, and the dark green of an old yew tree contrasts effectively with the grey stonework (Fig. 5). Eastward there is an extensive lawn with a yew hedge on the far side, beyond which at a lower level is a long bowling-green (Fig. 7). At the back of the house, the sloping ground is planted with trees and shrubs, though not so thickly as to block out entirely the view northward across the valley.

(To be concluded)



10.—A CORNER OF THE SITTING-ROOM OCCUPYING PART OF THE AREA OF THE ORIGINAL HALL. (Right) 11.—GEORGIAN CHIMNEY-PIECE IN A BEDROOM

WATCHING BIRDS IN ADEN

Written and Illustrated by H. E. ENNION

"UPON the whole it is the ugliest, blackest, most desolate and most dislocated piece of land of its size that ever I set eyes on." So wrote J. D. Hooker in the *Journal of Botany* after he had visited Aden in 1847. Many would still agree: barren red-grey rocks, porous and harsh to the touch, thrust up, bare and uninviting, between the flat sandy plain and the Prussian-blue sea. Having spent the first four months of my tour in Aden up at Dahla in the Western Protectorate, I was posted to a quill-driving job at the headquarters in Aden. I disliked the idea of paper-work, but I determined to make the most of my off-duty hours.

I had sampled the birds on my first day in Aden, on the mud-flats. I went out in the gathering dusk as a magnificent sunset pink-washed the undersides of the massed cumulus clouds overhead. Waders milled at the water's edge. Greenshanks, pale and aloof as always, fed farthest off. A grotesque group of flamingoes stood, apparently headless, asleep on one leg. At the edge of the tide a motley crowd of stints, plovers, curlews, terek sandpipers, godwits and dunlins fed and squabbled. A young turnstone searched for hoppers in the dross above the waterline. A caspian tern croaked above a frieze of pink-backed pelicans lining a low wall, silhouetted against the sunset.

Jebel Shamsan's eroded and bare gullies and peaks towered above the town and cradled Crater, the older Arab town, in its open east side. The route up the Jebel was straight-forward. A short drive was made through the goats, crowds, filth and peculiarly local stench—a rich admixture of chapattis fried in ghee, camels, garlic and cheap scent—in the back streets of Crater. A walk for a mile or so uphill on a well-made path with tail-flicking blackstarts and soaring Egyptian vultures for company led to a final 300-ft. scramble up the summit. From the top the views are magnificent. To the west and beyond the town, the bay leads the eye in a wide sweep to the gleaming oil refinery, dwarfed by the sharp lunar peaks of Little Aden. In the harbour below tugs fuss about graceful liners and long sleek tankers. Dhows, under their bellying sails, make their way in and out; bound for Mukulla perhaps, or in from Djibouti. To the east, beyond Crater, the beach, a gleaming strip of clean sand fretted by white horses, curves north and east for 30 miles and slowly vanishes into the haze.

About the circular rim of the Crater barbary falcons flickered and whickered, an eye ever



ADEN, FROM THE KHORMAKSAR SALT PANS WITH THE PEAK OF SHAMSAN ON THE LEFT. "Barren red-grey rocks thrust up, bare and uninviting, between the flat sandy plain and the Prussian-blue sea"

open below for an unsuspecting flock of tame pigeons or a kestrel to harry. Mourning chats flitted black and white, looking for spiders in the chinks of the masonry of the long disused emplacements of the old coastal batteries. A different track down from the peak leads past the Tawela Tanks, nine hanging tanks let into the side of a steep ravine to collect the flood water that pours down after the infrequent rains. The date of their construction is lost in the mists of fable and antiquity; they have been attributed both to the Persians during their occupation of the Yemen in the 6th century, and to the Himyaritic Arabs at the beginning of the Christian era.

The road to Zingbar runs along the beach to the north-east of Aden. Passing the houses and airfield on the outskirts of the town, and leaving Jebel Shamsan, the beach becomes open and clean. The country inland, a monotony of low dunes and dried tidal salt pans, serves as a fading foreground to the barren foothills of the Protectorate some 24 miles inland. The beach is not wide—perhaps 60 yards at low tide—and the birds are little troubled by the huge American lorries groaning under their loads up the beach to Abyan and to Shuqra. Once past the Colony Boundary, 10 miles out, one feels free of Aden, and the beach is the undisputed home of countless shore birds. Flocks of swift terns and white-eyed gulls waver up and away in a welter of wings as a vehicle passes, sanderlings twinkle above the waves, socotra cormorants peer and

dive offshore. Kentish plover, frail as porcelain with limpid black eyes, rest warily above the high-tide line. Ospreys, heavy with fish, lurk into the hot, salt air from bleached and mutilated tree trunks.

After 30 miles the track turns off the beach past a series of brackish pools, some right beside the road, in the gougings left by the bulldozers that made the road's embankment, and others hiding among the scrub, lining a seasonal water-course like beads on a string. The pools are a paradise for waders. Black-winged stilts and Kentish plovers breed there, their mottled young so hard to spot in the broken shadow of the thin scrub. Avocets, common and terek sandpipers, and sand plovers dip and feed in the shallows, with green sandpipers and greenshanks ever on the alert. Little, and once Temminck's, stint prick quietly round the edge, keeping away from the jealous ringed plover. I saw three dusky redshanks in one afternoon heralded by a ringing *chewit* that took me back five years to a tundra pool in the far north of Finland.

Farther inland the graded road leads into the extensive cotton fields of Abyan. This is an intensely cultivated area of some 45,000 acres. The main crop is cotton, with sorghum for grain and fodder a close second. It is one of the most productive and most prosperous areas in the whole Protectorate. The whole scheme has become possible by canalising and distributing the raging floodwaters of the wadis Bana and



A YOUNG REEF HERON (left) AND A PINK-BACKED PELICAN. These pictures were taken at Aden

Jassan. The scheme was started in 1938 and has been growing slowly ever since.

Hidden among the cotton fields and the thickets that line the beds of the two wadis are several heavily overgrown freshwater pools, relics of past floods. We went to a pool one evening to flight the duck coming in from the sea and the salty herons that lay just inland. My colleague had a 12-bore and I carried my binoculars, a pipe to discourage the mosquitoes and a hopeful game bag. Doves fled as we crashed through the angled scrub; palm doves, collared turtle doves, red-eyed doves—heavy dark birds with weary red eyes, namaqua doves, starling-sized with long graduated tails, flickered away through the interlocking twigs at breakneck pace. As we waited for the duck to come in a jack snipe was chased by an immature marsh harrier. The snipe wisely went to ground at the foot of a very thick clump and stayed put. The harrier crashed into the clump feet first and sat, peering this way and that, in obvious puzzlement. He gave up after a minute and ambled off to find a meal that wouldn't disappear.



YOUNG EGYPTIAN VULTURES AT ADEN

finch larks, dumpy small birds, sandy above and black on their fat tummies, squat and scratch on the ground, their melancholy piping a fitting sound in their desolate home.

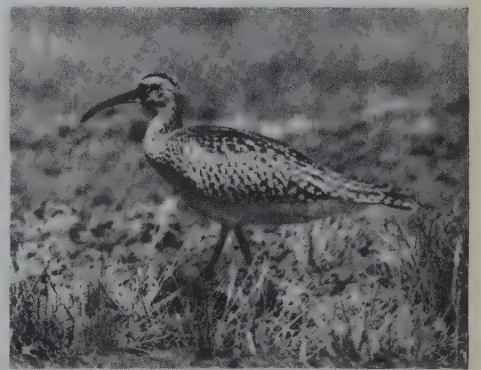
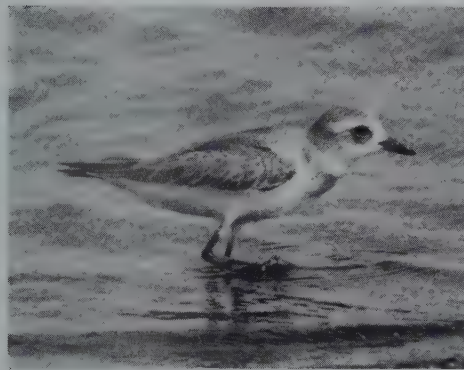
After 50 miles the track drops into a broad and indeterminate wadi bed and wanders among dispirited clumps of shrubs waiting for the next flood to give them new life. After half an hour, small villages appear beside the track. The

cacti and palm trees, hems in the wadi—now 100 yards wide—on both sides. Seasonal growths of bushes, hung with the fibrous flotsam of the last flood, dot the wadi, and there are cows in contented attendance.

Weaver birds chatter and churr, forever busily building new nests. Black bush robins, their long tails at 45 degrees above their backs, flute and pipe from the topmost sprays. Small parties of cattle egrets float overhead. Farther up the wadi the stream runs on the surface, tinkling and sparkling like a burn on Cheviot, the more so because of the common sandpipers that needle and teeter on the wet stones. Millet, lucerne, and water melons grow in profusion in the

small, flooded fields under the heavy nodding heads of the banana and date palms. Cows low, their flabby humps flopping from side to side as they graze, hobbled and enclosed by layered cut thorn fences. The road winds on up the wadi, swings round a bend and the village comes into sight.

Above the village, on a small hill, perches the Federal National Guard fort, its twin flags



Left to right) AN IMMATURE HEMPRICH'S GULL, A LARGE SAND PLOVER AND A WHIMBREL. These pictures were taken at Zingbar

The duck came in with the gloaming, flying fast and low to drop in quietly over the tops of the bushes and splash down into the open parts of the pool. They made difficult shooting, and my friend did well to get three—two shovellers and a teal. We headed back for the camp in the dark to the accompaniment of the weird wailings of a stone curlew and the incessant, distant barking of the omnipresent dogs.

Some 80 miles to the north-west of Aden, beside a river gorge that runs, deep-sided and green, into the Yemen, lies the village of Tur El Bahr. The village is on one of the Yemen trade routes that has been used since time immemorial. The start of this route is an insignificant, dusty track that branches off the Lahej road a mile to the north of Sheikh Othman. Past the smoking rubbish tips with their packs of snapping dogs and their flapping vultures, past the small shanty-villages with their ramshackle huts of packing cases, palm fronds, flattened drums, cardboard and asbestos, past derelict lorries, the track at last leads out on to the wide plain between the mountains and the sea. It is a lean place, dry, desolate and silent apart from the whispering of the lightest breeze among the twisted stems of dead scrub.

The plain is peopled by a few nomad families who wander from place to place grazing to sparse grazing, their few possessions on the back of a protesting camel and their small flock of appeared sheep nibbling disconsolately behind. The birds of this waste are few: bifasciated larks, large and all on the ground, flash black and white on their rounded wings as they seek to spy interlopers. Black-crowned

population turns out to stare; the men in loin cloths and hats like upturned wicker-work flower-pots. They grin toothlessly, salute and ask for cigarettes or injections (in the blind faith that all white men are doctors and that injections are a magic cure for anything from running sores to rickets). The womenfolk peer nervously from the dark smoky interiors of their huts, while the children, naked and pot-bellied, stand speechless and round-eyed, until biscuits or chocolate brings them to screaming, scrambling life. Shortly the track tops a rise, turns north and drops down into the bed of the wadi proper.

The change is immediate and startling. Lush vegetation, an impenetrable wall of bushes,

fluttering bravely in a cooler breeze. The village itself, a small place of some 1,000 inhabitants, is built round a dusty square. Stalls line the square on suq day; suqs are held weekly and the populace from miles around come in with their goods to haggle and barter. On the stalls the goods are open to inspection and the flies; fruit, Japanese fountain pens, vacuum flasks and pressure lamps jostle for attention with fly-blown meat, bolts of bright cotton and pictures of Nasser.

The noise is deafening. Arabs shout anyway, the louder when they have to contend with blaring radios, braying donkeys, squealing children, yelping dogs and the belching of munching, muzzled camels. Overhead swoop and whinny the kites; bee-eaters flash metallic in the sun, a hammerkop (intermediate between herons and ibises), his crest like another bill growing out of the back of his brown head, flies over, uncertain like a short-eared owl.

There are several places I have yet to visit. There must be some more birds on the rugged tops of Jebel Shamsan. I have yet to spend more than a few hours in the Botanical Gardens at Sheikh Othman. The large area of cultivated land around Lahej would repay a visit, I'm quite sure. There is the fabled Wadi Hadramout: to visit that it would be necessary to conduct an expedition on a grand scale.

Then there are the islands. Has a bird-watcher ever spent a week or so on Kameran Island, which is in the Red Sea off the Yemen coast? I don't know, but I certainly intend to do it.



A HOOPOE AT TUR EL BAHR, SOME 80 MILES TO THE NORTH-WEST OF ADEN

A HOUSE DESIGNED TO BE FLEXIBLE

By H. DALTON CLIFFORD

WHEN an architect is planning a house his aim should be to provide his clients with an environment that suits their way of life. This is all very well when the clients are middle-aged, and their way of life established; but when the house is designed for a young family the architect is presented with a puzzle that cannot be solved, for some of the pieces are missing. The eventual size of the family is not known, and in any case the domestic pattern will remain fluid until the children have grown up. The only thing to do is to provide a flexible house that can be adjusted or enlarged as the future unfolds.

It was a puzzle of this kind that faced Mr. Patrick Tetley when he planned Streams Farm, near Ansty, Sussex, for Major Bryan Henry and his Australian-born wife. They had two small boys and another child was imminent.

The architect's solution was to make the bedroom floor adjustable and allow for extensions. In addition to the parents' bedroom, staff bedroom and spare room, he provided one very large bedroom with three doors, three windows and two folding partitions.

At the moment this is used as a dormitory for the children, all boys and now aged 4, 8 and 9. When they get a little older one or both of the partitions will be unfolded to make two or three small bedrooms. Should more accommodation be needed a slice will be taken off bedroom 2 to extend the passage, and one or two bedrooms and a third bathroom will be built on the flat roof of the garage.

Downstairs too the plan is flexible. The dining-end of the living-room can be separated off at will by means of a sliding door; and there is a spare room, now a playroom or nursery, that may later become a sitting-room.

The house is rectangular and set roughly on an east-west axis. All living-rooms and all but one of the bedrooms face a point or two west of south, with uninterrupted views across a wide expanse of farm land to the Sussex downs,

Ditchling Beacon making a central feature. In the foreground a lawn and a meadow slope down to a stream, and the 50-acre farm on which Major Henry rears cattle extends well beyond the stream, thus ensuring that the view will be preserved. To the west, screened by a belt of trees that shelters the house from the prevailing wind, is a kitchen garden.

The road is to the east of the house, and the drive curls through a thicket of flowering



STREAMS FARM, NEAR ANSTY, SUSSEX. THE SOUTH FRONT. Walls are faced with buff brick below and white painted boarding above (Below) THE ENTRANCE FRONT. The vast window beside the front door lights the hall and landing and is double-glazed



GROUND- AND FIRST-FLOOR PLANS. The large dormitory can be divided into two or three rooms by the use of folding partitions

shrubs to a forecourt opposite the front porch, on the north side. The garage, big enough to take small farm equipment as well as two cars, is at the west end.

The front door opens into a hall that is exceptionally light and airy, for its external wall is a double-glazed window two storeys high. An elegant staircase curves up the landing above, the slender white balusters set off by a flame-coloured wall. Other wall surfaces are papered with thin grey stripe, and the floor is covered with large black and white linoleum tiles.

The mahogany and walnut furniture of the house is all antique, a cabriole-legged table, an early Georgian mirror and a long-case clock being particularly noteworthy. In front of the window on a fine mahogany chest stand a small collection of coloured glass that catches and reflects the light, while indoor plants are used for decorative relief. The whole picture is a striking one, and demonstrates among other things, that the strong colours and simple shapes we favour to-day make a splendid background for well kept period furniture.

To the left is a sliding door leading into the kitchen, comprehensively equipped with (in addition to the sink and cooker) a dishwasher, a clothes washing machine, an enormous refrigerator, a large hot cupboard, and a hopper that deposits refuse direct into the bins in a two-tier cupboard outside.

There is also a built-in corner dresser incorporating a serving hatch, and an attractive breakfast corner where the children have most of their meals. Outside the back door a screened and canopied yard gives access to the boiler room, which is large enough to contain a good drying rack for laundry, a perfectly feasible arrangement when the boiler is oil-fired, for there is no smoke or dust. The boiler consumes about 2,000 gallons of oil a year and supplies more than

ample hot water for six people all through the year, besides feeding the radiators for central heating in the winter.

The south wall on the ground floor is composed almost entirely of glass, with glazed doors opening on to the terrace from dining-room, living-room and playroom. Radiators under the windows and heavy curtains prevent excessive heat losses at night, and during the day, especially in early spring and late autumn, the gain of heat from solar radiation is usually sufficient to make the central heating superfluous.

Most of the north wall of the living-room is built of Sussex sandstone, in random courses, as surround to the log-burning open fire. The partition between living-room and playroom consists of a cleverly designed double-sided cabinet, with toy cupboards on the playroom side back to back with book and display shelves. In the centre, under the display shelves, is a cupboard containing a television set on a turntable, so that it can be faced towards either room. Concealed in the ceiling is a screen that can be pulled down for showing films or coloured transparencies. The right-hand cupboards in the living-room are for drinks and glasses, the lower compartment communicating with the wine cupboard under the stairs.

There is a cloak room that can be reached either from the hall or from the garage door, and a lobby or utility room, separated from the playroom by a wall of glass bricks, that has



THE ENTRANCE HALL. The wall on the left is flame-coloured, and others are papered with a thin grey stripe. *(Left)* **THE LIVING-ROOM.** Beneath the window seat are two radiators and a large locker for garden cushions. In the cupboard under the display shelves is a television set that can be faced to either living-room or playroom beyond

innumerable uses. It is a workshop, a flower room, a gun room, a place where gardening clothes and muddy boots can be taken off before passing into the hall, and so on.

Upstairs, in addition to the bedrooms already mentioned, there are two bathrooms, one of which has a shower compartment, and a dressing-room study. All the bedrooms have capacious built-in cupboards, and there are two large cupboards opening off the landing. This landing is the antithesis of that commonly found in economically planned modern houses, for it is broad and bright, and dramatically pierced by a great free-standing column of stonework that carries the flue from the living-room fire and, incidentally, radiates a surprising amount of heat.

Externally the walls are of buff brick up to first-floor level, and insulating blocks above, the blocks being faced with vertical boarding, painted. The roof is covered with large dark grey concrete interlocking roof tiles.



THE LIVING-ROOM AND ENTRANCE TO THE DINING-ROOM. (Right) THE LANDING

A COUNTRYWOMAN'S NOTES

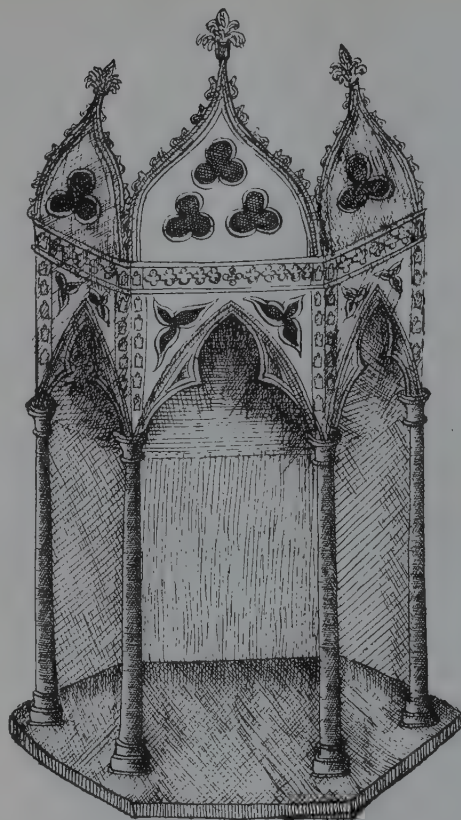
By EILUNED LEWIS

JANUARY is the month for reading books, and if we have been fortunate in our Christmas presents, there should be several new ones, fresh from the publisher's hands and still in their spruce jackets, lying about our rooms. What a pity that book tokens and time tokens cannot be issued together! A handsome gift would provide "Two guineas' worth of books and 40 hours of reading." Failing that, but still high on my list of benefits, I value a book that reached me at the start of the year. It was written between 1765 and 1767, but first published 30 years ago, and, as Hazlitt remarked on the reading of old books, "the satisfaction is not lessened by being anticipated."

This volume once belonged to a dear friend, the perfect man of letters, now alas, gone from this world. But his pencil notes of 30 years away, written on the back of the dust cover, make it more precious than any glossy jacket of to-day. Add to this that the book is the diary of the Rev. William Cole, to whom many of Horace Walpole's best letters were written and that it is confined to the life of the country parsonage of Blecheley (or Bletchley) in Buckinghamshire—with enough small happenings and shrewd observations to furnish material for a novel by Miss Austen, and almost as much English weather between its covers as can be found in the Journals of Gilbert White—and you will understand the reasons for my satisfaction.

The diary opens with the parson's return from a visit to Paris on January 1, 1766, and the first pages are filled with the contentment of the homing traveller. The eight bell-ringers who rang the church bells on his arrival all "came into the Kitchen, as usual with them 4 Times a Year, and drank as much as they pleased in Reason and Sobriety." The winter of 1766 was a cold one. "Hard Frost and fine Weather, Great Cold and Sore Throat," we read on January 9, while as late as February 14 Mr. Cole notes: "The most singular Appearance on the Trees, and the most beautiful I ever saw. Every Twig and Leaf of the Ever-Greens were crystalized, and the Wind shaking them, the large Trees made a very odd and surprizing noise." By contrast, in the following year, the entry for February 2 records: "Fine warm Day, like Summer. The Knats were out in my Bed-chamber and my Blackbird sung out so as to be heard up Stairs before I was up."

Throughout the diary there is a great exchanging of gifts. Plums and codlins from the rectory garden, and the raisin wine "which I make for the Poor People when they are ill," on one side, and on the other a brace of snipe for the parson, and a brawn's head from a godson in Cambridge. On January 18 "Mrs.



"AN ELEGANT, LIGHT AND AIRY CHINESE AND GOTHIC TEMPLE." A sketch by the author of *The Blecheley Diary* of the Rev. William Cole

Holt and Mrs. Goodwin drank coffee with me: they both cried and told me of Mr. G.'s ill Humours at Home . . . I gave them a Neat's Tongue which I had brought with me from Paris, and a Snuff Box for him, on which were painted Turtle Doves Billing."

There was another present from Paris—a necklace this time—for Mrs. Throckmorton, a guest of the patron of the living. Mr. Cole walked over to drink coffee with the lady, and because this was the very same Mrs. Throckmorton who was the friend and neighbour of William Cowper, and two years later gave the poet and Mrs. Unwin the key of her pleasure grounds at Weston Underwood, I was quite moved by that short entry for January 28, 1766.

This proves that what you bring to a book is sometimes as important as what a book may bring you. Nothing in these pages has entranced me more than the account of the improvements that Mr. Cole carried out in the grounds of the parsonage. "A fellow-feeling makes one wondrous kind," and because we also have added two small summer-houses to our garden, I read with avidity of how the parson built a summer-house at either end of his "Terras Walk."

One was "an elegant light and airy Chinese and Gothic Temple of an Hexagon Form, with 2 whole Pillars in Front and half Pillars to support the Back, of Oak, with Gothic pointed Arches, and a Frize of open Lace Work, above the Pillars, which support 3 large Gothic Ornaments, like Mitres, with Cabbage Work and Fleurs de Lis at Top." Situated on the north side, it "never has a Glean of Sun to incommode one in the Summer, and is extremely Cheerfully placed so as to discover all the hills and windmills in Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire. (We too discover hills and still one windmill but never think of being incommoded by the sun.)

At the other end of the terrace, Mr. Cole constructed a hermitage, thatched and built of rough and rude stones, plastered with common clay and paved with pebbles. Being on the south side, he considered it quite unfit for summer use, "but in the evening and some warm Days in the Winter it is a most comfortable Seat."

Among the improvements, he pulled down a "decayed ruinous Hog's Styte." We turned ours into a toolshed with a faintly ecclesiastical air, but I wish that we too had planted an "Espalier Hedge of Cressan Pears." Like the rector, we removed some earth (but did not dig "an ha! ha!") and took down a high "Palisado" and put up a most elegant and neat range of rails. But we have not yet achieved a raised gravel walk, "pleasant above Description," or the hedgerow of filberts to screen the garden from the orchard.

In a letter to Horace Walpole describing some of his activities, William Cole remarks "I think myself happy that I can so amuse myself with such Trifles as to be unconcerned with what is going forward in the World." I do not know whether he counted the Chinese Gothic temple and the hermitage among these trifles, but so long as he invited others to sit with him in the orchard, "drinking Coffee or Tea in an Afternoon" and discovering the pleasant view perhaps Providence did not pass too hard judgment on the urbane parson of Blecheley. Would that we possessed the same philosophical calm as he!

CORRESPONDENCE

POULTRY AT THE PUTTY

SIR,—With reference to recent letters on tits' attacking putty, when we kept poultry on free range they used to shelter in the back porch during hard weather and pick the putty from the glazed door.

Thinking that perhaps the linseed oil in the putty attracted them, I gave them cod-liver oil, and they immediately lost interest in their pecking.—GUY SILK, 17, Church Street, Warwick.

COYPU MENACE IN NORFOLK

SIR,—I was very interested to read the article by E. A. Ellis on the coypu menace in Norfolk (COUNTRY LIFE, December 29).

I have converted an old drainage mill at Reedham, Norfolk, on the River Yare, into a holiday residence. Much as I dislike taking the life of any wild creature, we have been forced to take action because of the damage done to our vegetable garden. On one

occasion more than a hundred beet-roots were lifted overnight. We found the tops in a near-by dyke where the coypu had washed the vegetables before eating. From the beginning of October to Christmas, with the aid of a single cage trap and a gun, my part-time gardener and I killed no fewer than 67 of these creatures.

This fact will, I feel, confirm the need for some official action. Incidentally, the most deadly bait for a trap is an apple, which the coypu invariably consume in a closed trap.—GEOFFREY H. LIVINGSTON, *The Hollies*, 56, Lutterworth Road, Leicester.

TERRA-COTTAS BY TINWORTH

SIR,—The correspondence in your columns about the works of Tinworth prompts me to write to remind admirers of his work that the very fine series of terra-cottas (scenes from the Old and New Testaments) were saved, I gather more or less unharmed, from the wreckage of the Guards Chapel at Wellington Barracks after it had been

almost completely destroyed by enemy action.

I understand that rebuilding of the Chapel is likely to be begun towards the end of the year. It is to be hoped that these works of Tinworth will find a worthy place in the new design.

A full description of them was published in the *Household Brigade Magazine* some time in the 1920s, or early 1930s.—JOHN CODRINGTON, 1, Ranelagh Cottages, London, S.W.1.

WOODEN YOKES STILL IN USE

SIR,—I was interested in the photograph of a wooden yoke for carrying buckets that appeared in your issue of January 5. None of the cottages in the little Merioneth village where I lived as a child had water laid on, and it was an everyday occurrence to see the maid-servant from one of the farms carrying two pails of water suspended by chains from a wooden yoke. This custom continued well into the 1920s. Even to-day none of the isolated hill farms has piped water; they rely on wells and streams,

so this type of yoke is still useful.—MARY CORBETT HARRIS, *Arosa*, 11, Reculver Road, Beltinge, Herne Bay, Kent.

AN UNSUCCESSFUL CLIMB

SIR,—I read Mr. W. A. Poucher's article, *Climbing Snowdon from the South* (December 8), with great interest.

My wife and I, together with our three children, acquired a taste for hill walking by rambling over the Shropshire and the Welsh hills. As we progressed, Snowdon, of course, became our ultimate goal. After careful perusing maps I decided that the Rhwyddu path should be our route and so we set forth one day in summer undeterred by a notice we had seen on a local inn, which stated that the hostelry was a mountain rescue post.

Unfortunately we had left rather late in the day and, having joined forces with relatives who were on holiday in the district, were further hampered by a young nephew who had

rained one of his ankles a few days previously. Our ascent ended at a point just below the Saddle. A large mass black rain clouds gathering over the summit was the spur to a hasty retreat. We thought of George Borrow and he wrote: "Easy to say 'Behold the peak' but difficult to reach its head."

With a feeling of frustration we began our homeward journey by car from Rhyd-Ddu via Beddgelert and on towards the A5. After we had passed the Pen-y-Gwryd hotel a storm broke. Torrential rain fell and the sky was so dark that I had to use the headlights on my car for several miles, even though it was only 7 p.m. British Summer Time. I shudder to think now we should have fared on Snowdon during that deluge, and we have had second thoughts about returning.

However, Mr. Poucher's descriptive words and his excellent photographs have re-kindled the urge to tempt the walk again. I am therefore looking forward to a family summit conference, followed by a successful attack on Snowdon this year.—P. H. MINSHALL, 74, North Road, Wellington, Shropshire.

DETACHED BELFRIES IN CANADA

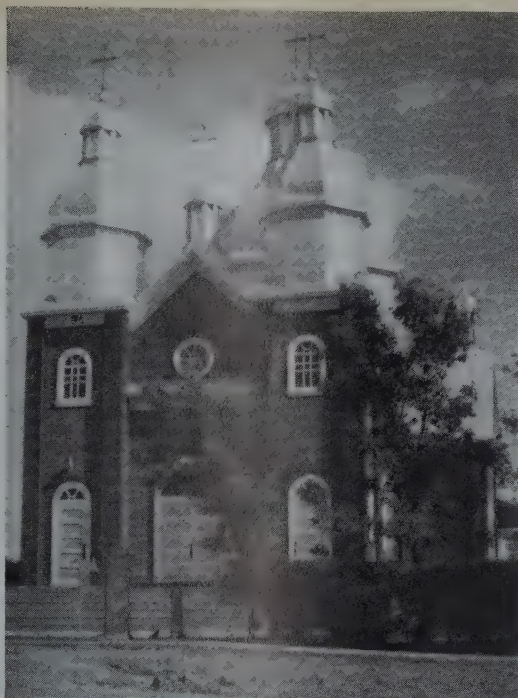
SIR,—I was interested to read in your December 8 issue about the church in New Zealand with a separate belfry. This style of belfry appears to be the one here in Canada with the wooden churches built by peoples from Eastern Europe—Ukrainian, Polish, Rumanian and Austrian. While on a 60-mile drive three years ago I counted more than 25 of these separate bell-towers.

I believe the reason for the separate belfry is that the weight and ringing of the bell are rather hard on the frame structure of the church. I enclose a photograph of the finest belfry, at the Ukrainian Church in Sandy Lake, Manitoba. It contains three different-toned bells, but most of the belfries contain a single bell. In this belfry the four trumpeters of outstanding workmanship.—H. WILLIS, Binscarth, Manitoba.

CHANGING TASTES IN WINE

SIR,—In an answer in *Collectors' Questions* of January 5 you say that the wine called Bucellas "appears to have been enjoyed by people of a class not given to using silver labels."

I believe that Bucellas, with alcavellas, was a favourite wine in officers' messes during the Peninsular War and that it was in vogue in the United Kingdom thereafter until about the beginning of Victoria's



UKRAINIAN CHURCH AT SANDY LAKE, MANITOBA. (Right) THE DETACHED BELFRY

See letter: Detached Belfries in Canada

reign. A study of decanter labels in my own collection and in those of fellow members of the Wine Label Circle shows that the great majority of silver labels for this wine were made between 1810 and 1835. The earliest I have been able to find is dated 1797 and the latest 1848.

A great deal concerning the tastes in wine of our ancestors can be learnt from an analysis of a large collection of decanter labels. The popularity of Madeira among the "upper drinking classes" is evidenced by the proliferation of labels of all periods bearing this name. On the other hand, the apparent fall from grace of Burgundy is perplexing. For fifty years or so from about 1750, Burgundy labels are not uncommon, but thereafter they are seldom found. Two large collections have only two examples made after 1810.—MALCOLM C. GRAY (Major), Liss, Hampshire.

MERMAID ON A TEA-POT

SIR,—I have been interested in recent correspondence on mermaids. I possess a Queen Anne silver tea-pot, engraved

with the Byron crest: a mermaid holding in one hand a comb, in the other a mirror.

Could there be any connection between Down St. Mary, the Wicklow family of Byrne and Lord Byron's family?—ISABEL T. DIXON (Mrs.), Lower Blagdon, Paignton, South Devon.

RIDING FOR THE FIRE BRIGADE

SIR,—I was interested in Mr. Clifford's article in *COUNTRY LIFE* of October 13, 1960, relating to Weston Patrick House, near Basingstoke, Hampshire.

My great-grandfather, Benjamin Stroud, lived in one of the thatched houses that escaped the fire of 1886. The house was owned by the Stroud family for over 200 years. It is now called Stroud Cottage, and is still there. Old inhabitants of the village still relate how Benjamin Stroud rode to Basingstoke on his horse to fetch the fire engine to the great fire in the village. He and his wife are buried in Weston Patrick churchyard. They had 17 children.—E. M. CHEVERTON (Miss), Fleet, Hampshire.

THE PEDLAR'S REEL

SIR,—I was interested in Ian Niall's article in your issue of January 12 and should like to add another item that could be bought at the door from pedlars.

In my grandmother's day the standard reel of cotton contained 300 yards and was sold by all drapers for 2d. The spinners made reels with shallow recesses, which were the same in appearance as the normal reels but contained only 100 yards. There was more timber and less cotton.

These were the ones sold by pedlars at the door. They are now sold by drapers and by stores over the counter.—FRANCIS KEYS, Lynwood, 71, Blackmores Grove, Teddington, Middlesex.

FROM ST. KILDA TO LUNDY

SIR,—Among other animals successfully introduced to Lundy in the Bristol Channel are Soay sheep, of which there is now a flock of 30 or more.

They are unkempt, dark brown, smallish sheep with narrow goat-like heads, both sexes having outcurving horns.

The alarm note is a snuffing snort, and they run with a peculiar stiff-legged gait, usually in single file. They are extremely agile and are perfectly at home in the boulder-strewn gullies and on the precipitous cliffs of the north and the west sides of the island, which are so reminiscent of their native St. Kilda.—L. GOWAN, 9, Ashfield Avenue, Beech Grove, Whickham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

ENAMEL BADGE LIKE A FIVE-POUND NOTE

SIR,—I have a rectangular buttonhole badge, about an inch across, depicting a five-pound note, in enamel. The date on the note appears to be 1876, and the name of the Chief Cashier, whose signature is shown, is J. May. I should be interested to know why this badge was issued.—H. JACK HADEN, Brookville, George Street, Wordsley, near Stourbridge, Worcestershire.

[In the early 1870s a quantity of discs, squares and rectangles in white enamel on copper were found in a loft formerly occupied by John Yardley, the last of the South Staffordshire enamellers. This was in High Street, Wednesbury. Several



SOAY SHEEP ON THE CLIFFS OF LUNDY

See letter: From St. Kilda to Lundy



HASSOCK IN ICKLINGHAM CHURCH, SUFFOLK

See letter: Hassocks of Sedge

laundry baskets were found packed with these, all undecorated. At this time—I think the year was 1872—a law was passed prohibiting the use of games counters made in the form of or in any way resembling out-moded regal coinage. Millions of these had been struck by the Birmingham button-makers from the early 1850s and passed as genuine by the unscrupulous, who gilded or silvered them by the newly discovered electroplating process.

These enamel blanks came to light at this time, and many of them were decorated with transfer enamels to copy coins and were sold as games counters at six for a penny. Five-pound notes were copied. This, of course, does not account for button-hole badges, but during the late-Victorian period these were always in demand by working people and they turn up illustrating many almost forgotten occasions.—Ed.]

USING MARROW-SCOOPS TO-DAY

SIR,—I found Mr. G. B. Hughes's article of December 8 on marrow-scoops of great interest, as I possess two of these. One of them is of the normal two-ended type, with one wide and one narrow scoop; it has good London marks of 1762, the initials of its owners, and the date 1771. The other, quite plain and without marks, has one end shaped as a narrow-type scoop. The other end, however, is in

the exact shape of a flat-bladed oar. This must have been for the purpose of spreading marrow, once extracted, on to bread or toast.

I myself am not a marrow-eater, but find it most useful for dealing with such things as tiny morsels of Javanese sambals (taken out of the little glass jar with the scoop end) when they have to be put on fish pie or kedgerree.—BRYAN LITTLE, *Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.*

[Oar-shaped marrow-scoops were in use during the Edwardian period and were in nickel alloy heavily plated with silver. Small examples are found matching the contents of a pocket knife and fork case.—Ed.]

HASSOCKS OF SEDGE

SIR,—In his interesting article *Thatched Churches of East Anglia* (December 15) Mr. J. D. U. Ward refers to the primitive hassocks in the church of Icklingham All Saints, Suffolk, one of which is shown in the enclosed photograph. These hassocks are said to be the matted tufts of the panicked sedge (*Carex paniculata*). Locally they were called pessers.—F. A. GIRLING, *Lawford, Essex.*

MILLS FOR STIRRING CHOCOLATE

SIR,—Your readers may like to see the enclosed photograph of examples of the chocolate mills or stirrers to which G. Bernard Hughes referred in his article *Silver Pots for Chocolate* (October 20).

The all-wood chocolate mill, on the left of the photograph, exactly fits the 1675 description quoted by Mr. Hughes: "The mill is only a knop at the end of a slender handle or stick, turned in a turner's lathe, and cut in notches, or rough at the end." The all-wood specimen illustrated is 12 ins. long and the knop is 2 ins. in diameter.

The second mill in the photograph is 13½ ins. long and has a wooden handle; the perforated paddle is made of tin. Both examples came from Ashburnham, Sussex.—EVA R. PINTO, *Oxhey Woods House, Oxhey Drive, near Northwood, Middlesex.*

REPTON'S PRAISE OF MOUNT EDGCUMBE

From the Marquess of Normanby.

SIR,—In his interesting article on Mount Edgcombe, Cornwall (December 29), Mr. Mark Girouard says that there is no evidence that any of the great landscapists, such as Kent, Brown or Repton, were actively associated with the lay-out.

I thought, however, that it might interest your readers to hear of the praise given to Mount Edgcombe by Repton in his Red Book on Mulgrave, Whitby, which I have here in the library. His book is dated 1792, and the following remarks appear under the heading of *Character and Situation*.

"I have frequently been asked which was the finest Place that I had ever seen, and till I had visited Mount Edgcombe I never hesitated in pronouncing that the scenery of Mulgrave was altogether the most magnificent, the most beautiful, the most romantic, and abounded in the greatest variety of pleasing and interesting objects. I am still of opinion that the natural situation of Mulgrave has the advantage of Mount Edgcombe, because the latter derives its greatest beauties from the Harbour of Plymouth, and the busy scene of shipping and dock yards, which are rather to be deemed the works of Art, than Nature; and tho' we have not at Mulgrave the magnificent river views of Mount Edgcombe, yet the sea-views are equal, if not superior, and we have some romantic scenes in the glens, with fresh water rivulets and cascades, in which Mount Edgcombe is totally deficient.

"In stating this comparison betwixt the two places, it is but justice to mention the advantage of two magnificent objects—the ruins of Whitby Abbey and Mulgrave Castle, which may be put in competition with

the fort on St. Nicholas's Island." NORMANBY, *Mulgrave Castle, Whitby, Yorkshire.*

SKILLED REBUILDING

SIR,—May I, as Managing Director of the building contractors concerned, comment on a point in your article (December 22) on the reconstruction of Mount Edgcombe House?

The author says that the outside walls are substantially the original



WOODEN CHOCOLATE MILLS FROM ASHBURNHAM, SUSSEX

See letter: Mills for Stirring Chocolate

ones and that a certain amount of rebuilding and replacing of battlements and parapets has been necessary. In fact, almost the whole of the east and south walls and the whole of the west wall and half of the south-western tower, were completely rebuilt.—H. E. HUNT, *Dudley Colliery Ltd., Bath Street, Plymouth.*

SUSSEX FARM-WAGONS

SIR,—C. Henry Warren's interesting article of December 15, *Farm-wagons of Vanished Days*, reminded me of day on the Sussex Downs just over 20 years ago.

We came down from the Devil Dyke to the village of Saddlecombe and there saw two wagons standing in a farm pond. I imagine it was customary in dry weather to allow the wagon wheels to soak in water to cause the joints, shrunk by the heat to swell.

Mr. Warren does not mention where he found his wagon; but it is like the ones at Saddlecombe that feel it must have been somewhere in Sussex. Different parts of the county had different types of wagon. G. PENNETHORNE, *The Hill House, Lindfield, Haywards Heath, Sussex.*

INTELLIGENCE IN ROOKS

SIR,—Miss Aspinall's letter of January 5 on the intelligence of rooks reminds me of similar intelligence in the part of rooks here at Felixstowe.

In the early morning, before visitors are on the beach, two or three will perch on the edge of a litter basket, all on one side, and flap their wings violently until the basket is over, when they feed on the scraps, repeating the performance until satisfied. There surely must be some reasoning attached to such action. G. H. WHEELER, *Felixstowe, Suffolk.*



FARM-WAGONS AT SADDLESCOMBE, SUSSEX, 20 YEARS AGO

See letter: Sussex Farm-wagons

PLAYERS FROM THE ARGENTINE

A Golf Commentary by P. A. WARD-THOMAS

A KINDLY and informative letter from the Argentine claimed that I was mistaken in the 1961 COUNTRY LIFE Annual. Writing of great 17th holes I had mentioned the famous occasion at Carnoustie in 1931 when Jose Jurado, in the last round, took a six that in all probability cost him the Open Championship.

This happened a long time before my watching of golf began, and so information had to be second-hand. I chose the most authoritative-looking of several accounts of that championship, and wrote that Jurado "hooked his drive into the near curve of the burn." My correspondent, who was present and without doubt most anxious for Jurado to succeed, says that he took in iron for his tee shot. The wind was strong behind him, and he was probably trying to make certain of not overhitting the fairway, which lies within a coil of the Barry Burn. With the championship in his pocket, Jurado lifted his head, or something like it, moving the ball enough to reach the Burn some 30 yards in front of him."

Agonising Moments

After holing out in six, Jurado needed four at the last hole to tie with Tommy Armour, but presumably was unaware of the act. After a good drive he chose to play short of the Burn, which crosses the fairway in front of the green, and was unable to get down in two more. Whether he was unnerved by his experience on the 17th, or whether, in ignorance of his position, he decided to play safe, thinking that a five would be good enough, I do not know. It would seem, in all reason, that had he been told a four was essential, he would have gone for the carry. Whatever passed through his mind in those agonising moments the outcome was tragedy for him, and Armour had won.

My correspondent went on to describe an incident in Armour's last round that is not mentioned in the accounts that I have read. The 16th, well over 200 yards long, is a formidable short hole, especially when, as on that day,

it was into wind. Most people were taking wood, but Armour used an iron and his shot narrowly missed the ubiquitous Burn, which creeps in towards the left and short of the green. The ball lay awkwardly on a downhill lie, and Armour shanked his second shot. It only just reached the green and finished a long way from the hole. He was probably angry with himself and may have thought that his hopes of winning had gone. In any event, it seems that he walked to his ball and putted, "without even taking the line," and down it went. If this was so then Armour was a fortunate golfer indeed that day. Had the long putt not fallen then Jurado might have won the championship, in spite of his finish, whereas in fact his was the first in a long chapter of near-misses by golfers from the Argentine.

Immense Vincenzo, Little Cerda

Most of these centred on the immense and amiable figure of Roberto de Vincenzo, and that delightful little man, Antonio Cerda. No two golfers since the war, or quite possibly before it, have competed with greater distinction in the Open without having won. As far as my records reveal, Vincenzo has played six times since 1948. In four of these years he was third, in 1950 was runner-up to Locke, and in Hogan's summer failed by one stroke to join the tie for second place behind the great man. I may have mentioned these facts before, but they deserve repetition for, in all conscience, they make a proud record, and no one would grudge Vincenzo victory should it ever come his way. Cerda, in seven successive years from 1951, was second twice, fifth three times and never outside the first ten.

It is rather a paradox that we are inclined to regard men who often finish in the high places, like these two and Macdonald Smith and James Adams, in the light of failures simply because they do not win. In fact, of course, they are vastly more successful than the majority, some of whom are praised for consistent performance that never brings them within sight of victory.

In only one of his six championships did Vincenzo let slip a commanding position, and that was last summer at St. Andrews, where, after two rounds, he led Nagle by two strokes, and everyone else by at least five. This was a most disappointing outcome, for his striking of the ball was magnificent in its effortless, controlled power.

A Kind of Fatalism?

It has always been hard to think of Vincenzo as a Latin, for the surface of his nature betrays no hint of fire and passion beneath, but there is a kind of fatalism, expressed in others by a shrug and a spread of the hands suggesting resignation, and circumstances beyond their control. Vincenzo rarely, if ever, shows this, but there have been times when I have felt that it was within him.

Cerda, who accompanied Vincenzo on many a quest to Britain, is unmistakably Latin. In him are all the sudden changes from sunshine to storm, with the fires of his temperament glowing just beneath the surface, but they rarely took possession of him entirely. When inspiration was upon him he could play with a startling brilliance. I shall always remember his brave attempt to catch Faulkner at Portrush, and how he almost made a wonderful finish to a championship that had seemed over long before. The great 16th hole destroyed him; his drive was pulled against the bank that borders the rough, a fine third shot failed to find the green, and the outcome was a six.

Then, at Lytham of more recent memory, there was Ruiz, that lean, handsome and very strong young man, taking a seven at the last hole when a four would have tied with Thomson and Thomas. Others, too, from the Argentine have had their moments, de Luca and Bertolino among them, although they never quite threatened to win. But some day perhaps an Argentine golfer will play so well that, when the final stresses mount, he will be invulnerable. Then a measure of vindication for Jurado long ago will have been achieved.

NEW BLOOD FOR HEAVYWEIGHT HUNTERS?

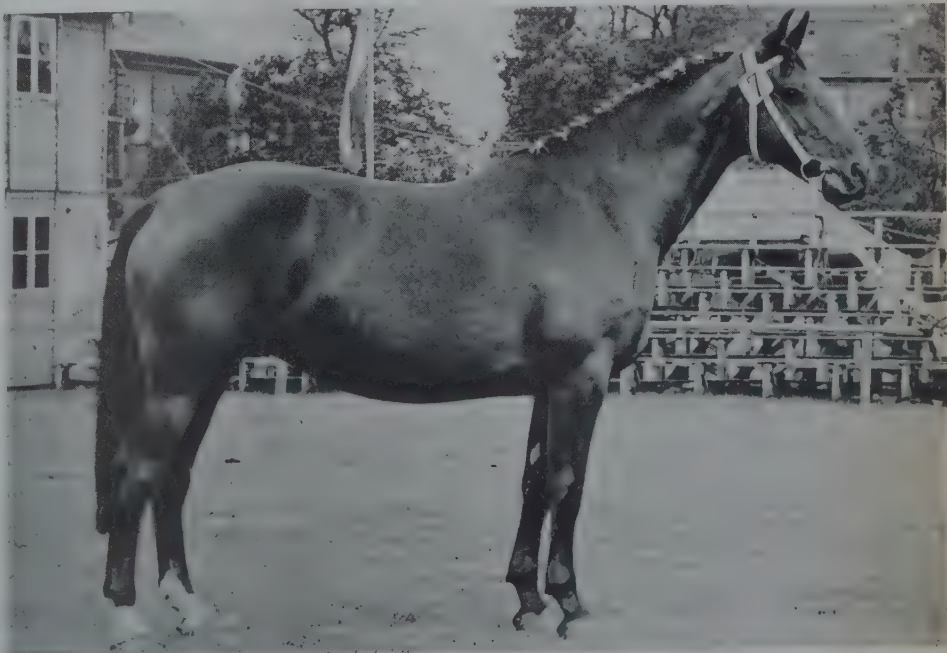
IT has long been foreseen that the mechanisation of agriculture and the disappearance of van horses from the streets of our cities would in time have a damaging effect on the breeding of heavyweight hunters in Britain. The situation has been made worse in recent years by the failing supply of Irish light-draught horses and by the diminishing numbers of the Yorkshire coach-horse, the Cleveland bay and the Pembrokehire pack-horse, all of which in the past have contributed to the breeding stock of heavyweight hunters. In Germany, however, many successful horses have been bred since the war for cross-country, jumping and dressage events by crossing thoroughbred sires with the big mares of regional breeds that have remained in regular use in German agriculture.

The Hunters' Improvement and National Light Horse Breeding Society recently sent Major-General E. D. Fanshawe, Mr. Geoffrey Palmer and Major K. P. Wallis to visit north-west Germany and report on the possibilities of the German breeds as a source of foundation-stock mares to be crossed in England with thoroughbred sires. The panel of three visited a number of German studs where the Oldenburg, Hanoverian, Trakehner and Holstein breeds have been developed for several hundred years, and many farms where the horses are still in regular use. In a report presented in London last week they conclude that the Holsteiners would be the most suitable for importation into Britain.

"The Holsteiners," they report, "are strong active horses with great jumping propensities, a quiet temperament and we saw no faults which would not be improved by judiciously crossing them with a thoroughbred sire. In our opinion they show a greater consistency of type than the other breeds. All the mares stood between 16.0 and 16.3, they have big knees and

hocks, short cannon bones and well over 8½ in. of flat bone, but many of them have straight 'knifey' shoulders. We consider that if they were outcrossed . . . they have the potentialities of producing a good well-laid-back riding shoulder. Many of them have big plain heads and, of course, one has no idea how long it would take to breed out this characteristic."

The Hunter's Improvement Society now suggest that British breeders who wish to experiment with a German heavyweight mare should get in touch with Holstein breeders (who have no accredited agents in Britain) either through the Society or through the Auslandskontor der Deutschen Tierzucht, Koblenzstrasse 174, Bonn, Germany. G. G. W.



A GERMAN HOLSTEIN MARE. The mares generally stand between 16.0 and 16.3 hands

CARS DESCRIBED

THE SAAB 96

By J. EASON GIBSON

ALTHOUGH the SAAB I have recently tested is not identical with the model of that make that won the R.A.C. International Rally, there is sufficient resemblance to give added interest to my experiences with it. Both the appearance and the specification of the SAAB are unconventional to British eyes, but its difference from the usual is fully justified because of its functionalism. It is designed and built by Svenska Aeroplan Aktiebolaget, and many points are traceable to aircraft practice.

The engine is a three-cylinder two-stroke—a method of construction that is claimed to give, and almost completely does give, the same degree of smoothness as a conventional six-cylinder engine of four-stroke type. The engine is fitted with a pre-heating device, which allows the inlet manifold to be warmed in exceptionally severe weather. For use in the depths of the winter a driver-controlled radiator blind is fitted, which allows the efficient working temperature to be quickly reached. The engine is lubricated by the usual two-stroke petrol method, but the percentage of oil required to be mixed with the petrol is less than usual at

transmission. Lubrication of the chassis is required at intervals of 1,000 miles at 10 points.

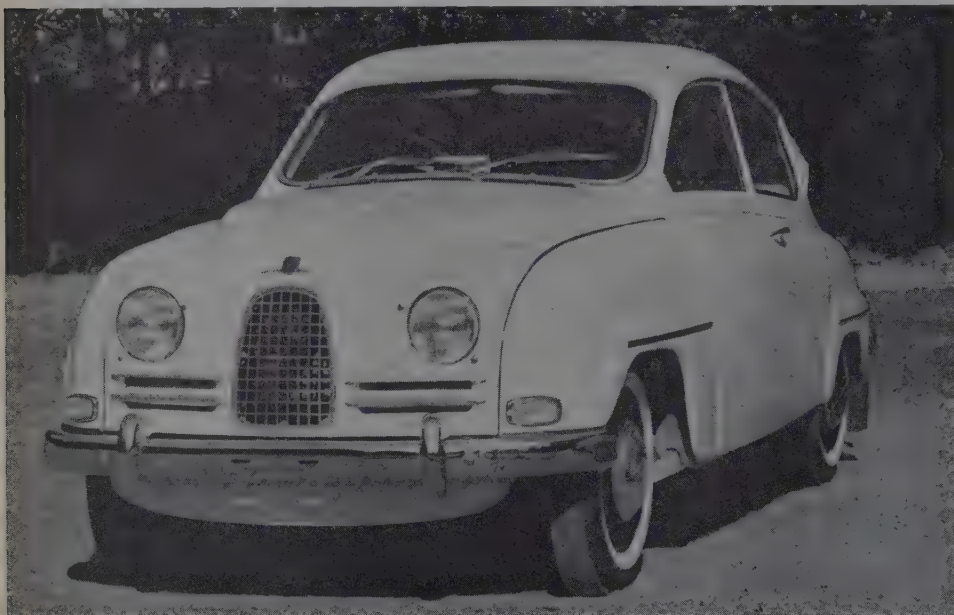
At first glance the interior of the body appears Spartan in its simplicity, but examination and experience show that much thought has been given to the comfort of both driver and passengers. While the front bucket seats are firmer than most, their good shape makes them very comfortable, and a simple manual adjustment allows the angle of the squab to be changed instantly to suit individual drivers. The ventilation of the interior is carefully planned. Small slots beneath the rear window communicate with small extractor louvres in the rear quarters, and this allows vitiated air to be expelled without the opening of any windows. In addition to the normal heating and demisting system, small holes in the fascia direct heated air to the side windows to assist in demisting. All-round vision, however, is not up to the usual standard. The sharp slope of the rear window and tail makes manoeuvring difficult and uncertain, and the initially high bonnet makes one unsure of placing the car to within a few inches. With the fuel tank carried in the rear-

open any window to extract stale air. Incidentally, the front windows pivot to open, rather than drop vertically, which allows ventilation even in hot weather to be finely controlled.

With only the driver on board the suspension seems to be rather bouncy, but with normal load a high standard of comfort is obtained. The rack-and-pinion steering accurate without at any time being too sensitive and sudden variations in road surface are passed through to the driver. On corners of varying type the car always inspires confidence, and after some experience high speeds can be used, without in any way disturbing the passengers' comfort, as there is almost no noticeable. The brakes on the car tested required rather greater pedal effort than would have expected; but while this gave the impression that the brakes were below standard, subsequent tests proved that a braking efficiency in the order of 90 per cent. could always be achieved. A small point contributing to the smoker's convenience is the fitting of ashtray on the two front doors. The driver's ashtray can be reached without jamming the right hand between the door and the steering wheel, which is seldom possible, even on much more expensive cars.

In spite of the overall silence of the car, even at high cruising speeds there was no audible evidence that both the gearbox and the final drive were mounted in front of the drive and it was only at very low speeds in town that some slight, but not unpleasant, noise was heard. A simple adjustment allows the height of the rear seat to be controlled. Three people can be comfortably accommodated in the rear seat; useful space has been saved by recessing armrests into the body thickness. The maximum speed of just over 72 m.p.h. is good for a car with an engine of only 841 c.c., especially as the top-gear ratio is chosen to give acceleration rather than high maximum speed. The dimensions of the engine and the gear ratios are such that the theoretically reliable cruising speed is over 65 m.p.h. Owing to the exceptional silence and smoothness of the engine, and the lack of wind roar because of the very good ventilation system, this cruising speed is likely to be used by other drivers than the enthusiasts.

The fuel consumption could vary between about 33 and 45 m.p.g., the lower figure being that for very hard driving conditions and the higher being possible for the gentler driver. Eyes accustomed to the present popular so-called Italian line the SAAB appears unconventional, but beneath the appearance is a car of great character, with a performance good enough to counteract any little peculiarities it may have. Naturally, it suffers in comparison with British cars, owing to the weight of import duty.



THE SAAB 96. It has a three-cylinder two-stroke engine and front-wheel drive

2 pints to 8 gallons. A mixer is provided in the fuel tank, so that mixing the oil and petrol is no additional worry for the driver. With a compression ratio of 7.3 to 1 the engine can be happily run on ordinary-grade fuel. The engine has a capacity of 841 c.c. and gives a total power of 42 brake horse-power at 5,000 r.p.m. A good proportion of the torque is given at relatively low engine speeds—the maximum being at 3,000 r.p.m.—and as a consequence good pulling power is provided on top gear.

The car is of integral construction, and because the engine and gearbox unit is mounted in advance of the front wheels, and the car has front-wheel drive, the four occupants enjoy a completely flat and unobstructed floor. Independent front suspension, employing coil springs and wishbones, is used, while the rear suspension, although not independent, also uses coil springs. Telescopic hydraulic dampers are used all round to control the suspension. The steering gear is of rack-and-pinion type, which is now accepted as the most sensitive and accurate. Lockheed hydraulic brakes are used and the hand-brake lever is sensibly placed between the front bucket seats. Good synchromesh is provided on both top and second gears, and the incorporation of a free-wheel allows clutchless gear changes to be performed easily. The free-wheel assists in giving economy of running, and gives the benefit that the characteristic irregular running of a two-stroke at low engine speeds on a closed throttle does not cause jerkiness in the

side rear wing, a good space is provided in the luggage boot, beneath the floor of which are carried the spare wheel and tool kit.

The gear lever on the car tested was exceptionally stiff, but this was because an unauthorised modification had been done. The top-gear ratio is rather on the low side, but this undoubtedly contributes towards the good top-gear acceleration, and a higher ratio would only increase the maximum speed at the expense of other qualities. I found the placing of the door handles and window winders inconvenient for a driver of my height, but I gained the impression that smaller drivers would also have been equally inconvenienced.

On taking over the car in extremely cold weather I found that only limited use of the choke was required to obtain an instant start, but on the other hand use of the choke was required for a few miles before the engine settled down to run evenly. This could, I think, have been remedied by carburettor adjustment, but I prefer to test cars in the condition in which they are delivered. Because of the tendency to irregular running at low speeds inherent in any two-stroke engine, the intrinsic smoothness of the engine is not at first apparent. Once the SAAB is warmed up and on the open road, however, the engine shows that it can with justice be described as the quietest and smoothest in the small-car class. In addition, it is remarkably quiet from the point of view of wind roar, which is traceable to the fact that there is no need to

THE SAAB 96

Makers: SAAB (Great Britain), Regent Street, London, W.1.

SPECIFICATION

Price	£885 2s. 6d.	Suspension	Independent (front)
(inc. P.T. £261 2s. 6d.)			
Cubic capacity	841 c.c.	Wheelbase	8 ft. 2 in.
Bore and stroke	70 x 72.9 mm.	Track (front)	4 ft. 0 in.
Cylinders	Three	Track (rear)	4 ft. 0 in.
Valves	None (two-stroke)	Overall length	13 ft. 2 in.
B.h.p.	42 at 5,000 r.p.m.	Overall width	5 ft. 1 in.
Carburettor	Solex	Overall height	4 ft. 9 in.
Ignition	Coil	Ground clearance	7 in.
Oil filter	None (Petrol lubrication)	Turning circle	34 ft.
1st gear	17.2 to 1	Weight	15½ cwt.
2nd gear	8.5 to 1	Fuel capacity	8½ gal.
3rd gear	5.3 to 1	Oil capacity	
Final drive	Spiral bevel		
Brakes	Lockheed hydraulic		

PERFORMANCE

Acceleration	Top	2nd	Maximum speed
	secs.	secs.	
30-50	9.5	10.4	Petrol consumption
40-60	14.5	—	33 m.p.g. at average speed of 45 m.p.h.
0-60 (all gears)	26.0 secs.		

BRAKES: 30 to 0 in 33 feet (90 per cent. efficiency)



How is it done—this rope trick that these Eastern chaps do all the time?

It's magic of course, anything as clever as that must be—like making a good curry. It's the time it takes though, peeling all those Chillies and cracking all those Caraway seeds, blending Mustard with Cloves and Cumin with Paprika, boiling eggs and heaven knows what else! It's so much simpler to open a tin of Brand's Curry—Chicken, Veal or Beef, you can't go wrong, just serve with your favourite vegetables or rice. Most people are eating Brand's tasty curries these days. It's the right thing to do, and apart from anything else, they make a wonderful meal.

Brand's Curries

CHICKEN 3/6d • VEAL OR BEEF 2/1d



Water Pollution
Research Laboratory for
the Ministry of Works,
H. A. Snow, A.R.I.B.A.,
Senior Architect,
M.O.W.
Builders: Harry Neal Ltd.



Shops and Flats,
Bedwell
Community Centre.
*Builders: Carlton
Contractors Ltd.*

The new towns build with Crittall windows



'The Twin Foxes'
Public House.
Builders: Tersons Ltd.



STEVENAGE NEW TOWN

Except where otherwise
stated the buildings
shown were designed for
the Stevenage Development
Corporation under the
direction of the Chief
Architect, L. G. Vincent,
C.B.E., A.R.I.B.A.
DIP.T.P., A.M.T.P.I.

TOWN CENTRE

A "pedestrian precinct"
the first of its kind in the
United Kingdom—was opened
by Her Majesty the Queen
in April, 1959.

"Joy Ride" sculpture by F. Belsky.



Housing at Broom
Barnes.
*Builders: Carlton
Contractors Ltd.*



Kodak Ltd.,
Office Block and
Production Area.
*Builders:
Gilbert-Ash Ltd.*

CRITTALL



Girls' Grammar School
for Hertfordshire
County Council.
County Architect:
G. C. Fardell, M.B.E.,
A.R.I.B.A. (Former
County Architect: Th
late C. H. Aslin, C.B.E.,
P.P.R.I.B.A.)
*Builders:
Ekins & Co. Ltd.*

CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

A CURE FOR NAUSEA

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

It would appear that my COUNTRY LIFE articles are widely read in the U.S.A. This week's material will be familiar to some of my American readers, for it is taken from their national magazine, *The Bridge World*. I can only hope that my remarks may prove helpful.

To begin with, here is a typical comment by Albert H. Morehead: "Y'know, it's just really possible that the British are right when they call American bidding sick, sick, sick. They say we got that way from swallowing so many indigestible forces. Speaking personally, we certainly get an occasional stomach-ache."

Also speaking personally, as a genuine Anglo-American by parentage and upbringing, I am faintly nauseated by the patronising advice which Morehead refers. I may have said some unkind things myself, but at least I did so at a time when the U.S.A. were winning every championship in sight. "It won't last," was my refrain. "Your bidding sins will find you out." Why rub it in now that the slump has hit with a vengeance? Anyway, we can leave that to their own writers; but I do wish someone could hit the nail on the head.

Take, for example, a deal from last November's match between New York and Los Angeles. This is what Alphonse Moyses, Jr., editor of *The Bridge World*, had to say: "It could be hard to set up a hand that symbolises more accurately what this observer feels (and has long felt) to be the Decline and Fall of American bidding. Or that more sharply delineates the gulf between American and European bridge ideology."

Dealer, North. East-West vulnerable.

In both rooms the so-called bidding, as Moyses puts it, consisted of One Diamond by East. One Spade by West. Two Diamonds by East. He goes on to say: "If there is any one factor more responsible than any other for the long succession of American defeats, it is the minimum bidding theory followed by so many of our experts."

It might be as well to explain what is meant by minimum-bid theory. Let us say that you open One Club and get a response of One Heart; you have more than enough for a jump to Three Hearts, but you are content with a single raise. That is known as the leeway principle. Your Two Hearts is one of the "indigestible forces" mentioned by Morehead. However minimum your partner may be, he is expected to go on, ignoring the fact that you might have made the same call with a much weaker hand.

On the hand from the New York-Los Angeles match, Moyses is solely concerned with East's failure to bid Three Diamonds at his second turn. Under our methods, the only bid that makes sense is an honest Two No-Trumps. East can expect to win seven tricks in his own hand without attaching any right to the Knave of Hearts and Queen of Clubs; in fact, he may kick himself for not jumping all the way to Three No-Trumps if West gives him in Two with a hand such as this:

♠ A J 9 7 ♥ 10 7 5 ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ J 9 4

An opening lead of either a Heart or a Club would then give him a ninth trick. Note, also, that the lack of a third Club in East's hand is a cause for concern. Once in a while the suit may be run off against him, but far more often Club lead will be welcomed; should West turn up with A x x or K x x, it is much better for East to be the declarer.

Uncharacteristically, Moyses seems to have missed the issue. East, he says, should bid Three Diamonds, and he lets it go at that. Does

that cut out all further headaches? West can do one of two things. If he says Three Spades, East is no wiser about the Club situation; he might just as well have bid No-Trumps on the previous round. West's alternative rebid is Three No-Trumps; but then the side, for all he knows, might be wide open in Hearts.

We must look elsewhere for the root of the trouble. East could not jump to Two No-Trumps over the Spade response, for the simple reason that he was short of the 19-20 points that are required for that rebid in American bridge.

And why does East need such inordinate strength for Two No-Trumps? Because the leading Americans remain faithful to either the Forcing Two or the Weak Two. As there is no intermediate Two-bid, a hand just short of a game force has to be opened with a bid of One. The corollary is obvious. In Acoll and allied systems, since the opener's strength is limited by his failure to make a Two-bid, there is no need to respond to a bid of One with fewer than six or seven points on a balanced type of hand. In American bridge, West could bid One Spade over One Diamond on as little as this:

♠ K 9 8 7 3 ♥ 9 7 5 ♦ 6 2 ♣ J 4 3

Thus, by easy stages, we come to the real issue. If West can say One Spade with a mere three or four points, East cannot logically jump to Two No-Trumps with fewer than 19. Study the bidding by two of the best players in the world on another deal from this match:

♠ A K 2
♥ 8 6 4
♦ A K 9
♣ Q J 6 5

♠ J 9 3
♥ A 5
♦ Q J 2
♣ A 10 8 7 4

N
W E
S

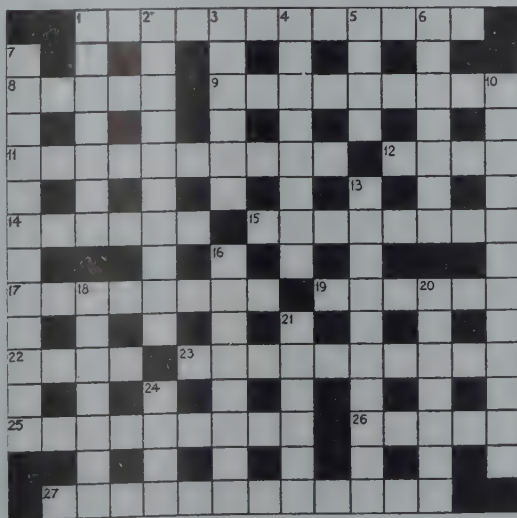
♠ Q 7 6 4
♥ J 7 3 2
♦ 6 4 3
♣ K 2

♠ 10 8 5
♥ K Q 10 9
♦ 10 8 7 5
♣ 9 3

Dealer, West. Both sides vulnerable.

CROSSWORD No. 1609

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1609, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, February 1, 1961.



Name..... (MR., MRS., ETC.)

Address.....

SOLUTION TO No. 1608. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of January 19, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Tipstaff; 5, Scotch; 9, Log-cabin; 10, Dinner; 11, Eldritch; 13, Rivage; 14, Ham; 16, Effect; 19, Bundles; 20, Abloom; 21, Pet; 26, Tressy; 27, Domicile; 28, Rhymes; 29, Splashed; 30, Desist; 31, Presided. DOWN.—1, Tiller; 2, Pagoda; 3, Tragic; 4, Flitch; 6, Catiffs; 7, Tintagel; 8, Harvests; 12, Handled; 15, Rum; 16, Eel; 17, Pattered; 18, Blue eyes; 19, Bolsters; 22, Topper; 23, Rivals; 24, Wished; 25, Seeded.

ACROSS

- Where one should go to buy a dark blue suit? (6, 6)
- "Whither away, fair —, and what thy quest?"—*Bridges* (5)
- Interpreted in the classroom perhaps (9)
- It can cry "Bo!" (anagr.) (10)
- One has to compose them, one does (4)
- Reforms, only to finish in the river (6)
- No obstacle race, this: all lights green (5, 3)
- "Oh rest ye, brother —, we will not wander more!"—*Tennyson* (8)
- It may occasion some sharp shooting in the side (6)
- Meat that has turned insipid (4)
- Turn back for his notes (10)
- Does this plant need docking? (5-4)
- Shakespeare's "wooden O" (5)
- A devil the saint scolds in giving a lecture? (12)

DOWN

- The face (7)
- Presentiment of no bridge being forthcoming (10)
- Beyond the capacity of a sapper? Take that back! (6)
- Alive and sane (8)
- Nonsense! a list is needed (4)
- The line runs through it, as its name implies (7)
- This ought to be a striking affair (7, 5)
- After the spell has ceased to bind (12)
- One of the old body-builders (10)
- No salt or these birds get dispersed (8)
- Subject of the telegraphist's feeling of guilt? (7)
- Nevertheless, they are girls (7)
- In bad temper he has taken fifty (6)
- The Russian no (4)

NOTE.—This competition does not apply to the United States.

The winner of Crossword No. 1607 is

Mrs. Prest,

Mascalls,

Broad Chalke,

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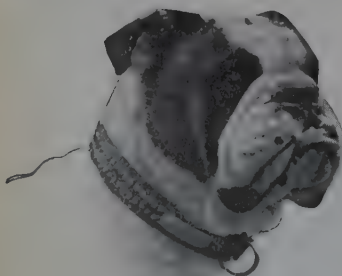
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FARMING NOTES

MILKING COWS OR LAMBING EWES?

A FIELD of Italian ryegrass hurriedly planted on a scratched wheat stubble is a green oasis with average conditions will soon be ready for grazing. The problem is to keep a fair balance between the needs of milking cows and ewes with lambs; this is usual on most dairy farms where sheep have been introduced originally as scavengers. Gradually they worm their way in and, backed by an anxious shepherd, become the vanguard of grazers. On the credit side, sheep are reasonably profitable, need little capital spent on housing and leave most pastures in far better condition than they find them. But they need a shepherd, and shepherding is seldom sought by rising generations of farm-workers, who prefer the comparative comfort of a tractor seat.

Grass Silage versus Maize

LOTS of good silage was made in 1960. But there was also a fair amount of bad quality made by farmers who will not trouble to obey the simple rules necessary to produce good silage. Livestock thrive well on that we put in pits. Self feed, our saving as it is, does not fit in with my farming pattern, the extra cost of carting being balanced by a saving in fodder. The cattle are suspicious of a change-over to maize, though on appearance and analysis it is first-class stuff. An experimental 10 acres, ploughed and disced only, produced a wealth of clean material, chemicals being used for weed control. The comparison in values of maize and grass silage has yet to be made. So far, under our conditions, grass is more efficient because of less initial expense and supplementary feeding.

Improving the Yields

THIS is International Seed Year when the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations stress the need for better seeds everywhere if food supplies are to keep pace with the rise in human population. Mr. F. R. Horne, Director of the National Institute of Agricultural Botany, told the Farmers' Club that he had not done so badly: in 20 years yields of wheat and barley have increased by 40 per cent., those of oats 26 per cent., the last decade having seen twice the increase of the previous one. Spring wheats have been developed over the last twenty years. The average yield of potatoes has gone up by 10 per cent., Mr. Horne warned us of the need for more care in quality, particularly to meet the needs of pre-packers. Car-beet yields are a third more per acre and should continue to rise. A new short-term hybrid marrowstem has been bred for folding by electric fence, and with it an attempt has been made to balance the effects of shorter height by greater stem thickness and better palatability. The forests, which are often illustrated in seed catalogues, are poor milk producers.

Wisdom of Good Seed

THE spate of spring farm seed catalogues is on. Competition is keen, so to attract farmers' attention they contain much more than bare statistics—articles on farm management, pictures of bumper crops and details of new varieties expected to increase yields. But prices are the main concern of buyers, and there are wide variations about any real standards by which to judge them. Some farmers sow nothing but high-quality grain; some, as I do, a proportion of the best to try on for next season. But the

majority are satisfied with a mediocre standard, possibly from a near-by farm, costing about half as much as well-bred seed. Good seed can raise a 30 cwt. crop to two tons. So even if it costs twice as much, the extra yield means a good profit.

On the First Rung

THE Land Settlement Association, with 835 holdings divided into 18 estates, provides the first rung of the farming ladder. It was initiated as an experiment in settling unemployed industrial workers on the land: now the majority of the tenants are former farm-workers. An applicant needs £2,000 to qualify, but three-quarters of this can be raised on loan from the Ministry and any industrious farm-worker has little difficulty in saving the balance. The small size of the holdings—five to ten acres—restricts production mainly to market gardening, poultry and pigs. Each group is cared for by a manager, who supervises buying, marketing and contracting with machinery too costly for individual purchase, which gives the advantages of larger holdings. The manager is chairman of the local consultative committee of elected

Cincinnatus is abroad and will resume his notes shortly.

tenants. One aim of the association is that every member should earn more than an agricultural worker. They do, but work far longer hours, though with the satisfaction of being their own bosses.

Remarkable Results

SOME remarkable figures, the results of intensive grass-land management, come from Well Heads Farm, near Bradford, 1,000 feet above sea level, where Mr. Oliver Barraclough has, in a little over ten years, trebled both his fertiliser costs and farm profits. Mr. Barraclough's 85 acres, in a heavily industrialised area, carry 60 cows averaging 750 gallons annually. With improved grass, concentrate feed has been halved. The net output per acre is £90, double the average of officially-costed lowland dairy farms. With the exception of five acres of kale and three of permanent grass, the whole farm is in leys, about a quarter of which are reseeded annually. The season's dressings of 9 cwt. of sulphate of ammonia per acre will startle many farmers who think that two in early spring are enough and others who are content just to let their grass grow.

Machine Hedge-trimming

WE are making time to get round the hedges, not manually, but with a mechanical trimmer mounted on the tractor. It does not make such a tidy job as a man did, but, used regularly, maintains stock-proof fences. This machine covers as much in a day as the driver dismounted would do in a fortnight. Clearing up the thorns is not a serious job.

Bath and West Retirement

FOLLOWING the next Bath and West Show—at Bristol from May 31 to June 3—Mr. J. G. Yardley will retire from the secretaryship after 24 years' service with the Society. He has done a first-class job in guiding this itinerant show along the path of profit. For some years he has served both the Bath and West and Smithfield Shows. After the Bristol fixture he will concentrate on Smithfield, to the regret of the Bath and West.

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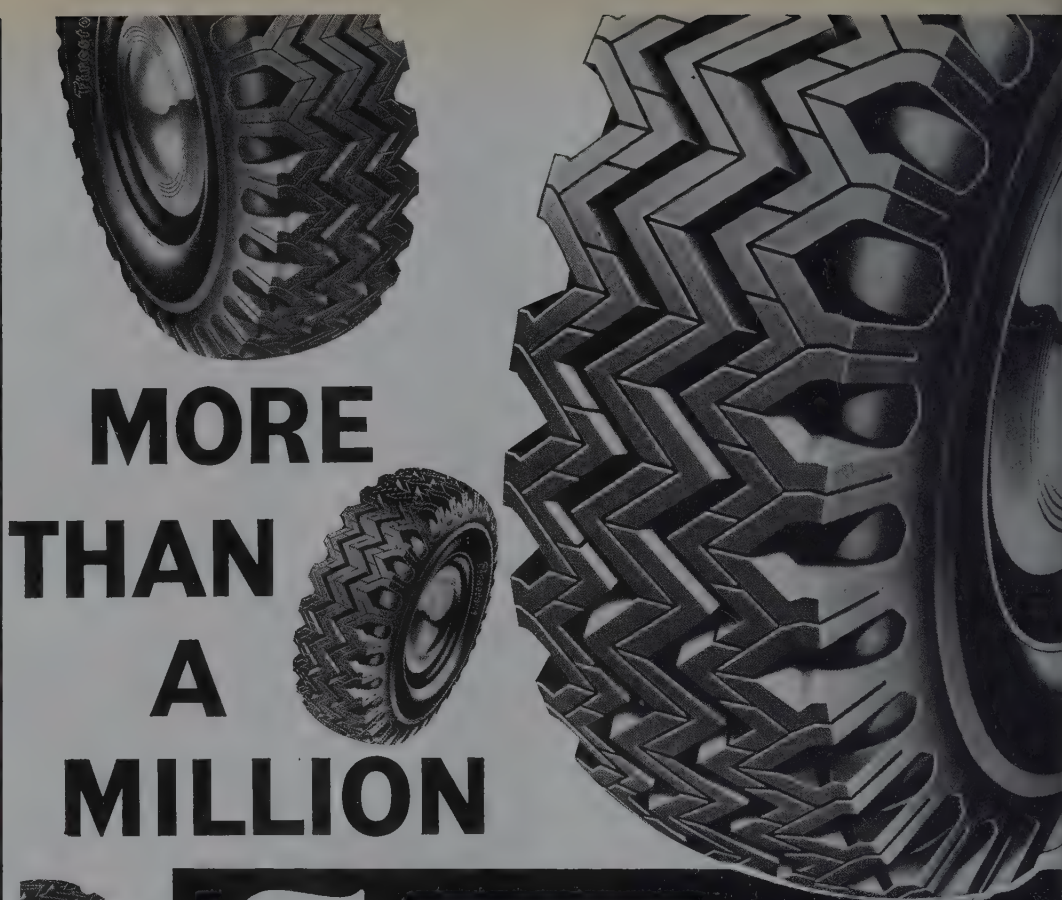
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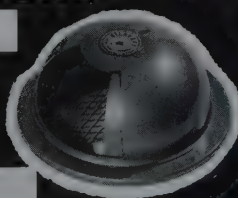
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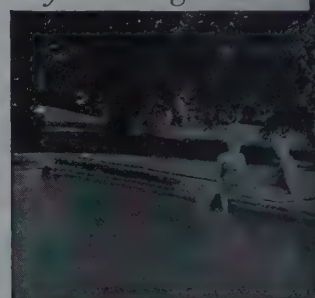
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THE ESTATE MARKET

WHEN HIGHER RENTS ARE JUSTIFIED

NOTICES for Lady Day tenancies have to be served before March 25, and several landlords know are in a quandary about whether to ask for increased rents in order to bring them to an economic level. Those who are in two minds about the problem, fearing that if they ask for money they may jeopardise the long-standing relationships with tenants, may take courage from comments of a reader, Mr. A. A. C., partner of Messrs. Body, Son & Fleury, a firm of Plymouth landlords, who writes to say that of 141 tenancies re-valued in Devon and Cornwall the majority show an increase of more than 50 per cent., and that such a situation is very rare, because there is ample evidence to put before a tenant to justify an increase.

"One of the most interesting aspects," the writer goes on to say, "is that in no case have I found any deterioration in the relationship between landlord and tenant as a result of increases, and, in fact, the mutual respect increases with an improved business relationship." By having the services of his estate put up to a fair and reasonable level, coupled with good management, a landlord has much to gain from the increased return, just as much as from proper preparation of maintenance claims and from taking advantage of Government grants. And the fact that the property is being run on sound economic lines and that improvements are made when money is available will undoubtedly make for happy and contented tenants.

Good Use Made of Grants

EVIDENCE that landowners are taking advantage of improvement grants under the Agriculture Act of 1947 is available in plenty, and it looks as though the sum originally made available by the Government may be exhausted before the end of the 10-year period. In particular much attention has been given to the problem of serving water supplies in order to provide irrigation on light land, and many cottages have been built and old ones modernised with the help of grants under the Housing Acts. In spite of higher rents being asked, it is generally agreed that the landlord and tenant system is working better than at any other time.

NEW PATTERN OF FARM HOLDINGS

In their annual review of property market trends in 1960, Messrs. Pitt and Parker, Lofts and Warner, manage a number of important agricultural estates in different parts of the country, suggest that, owing to the Government's pressure on the farming industry to increase efficiency, larger holdings have become more economic, and as farms fall vacant there is a tendency towards amalgamation, instead of re-letting separately, that far-seeing landlords will bear in mind when considering demands for new cottages and buildings made by sitting tenants. Mr. Ralph Hey, deputy president of the Country Landowners' Association, speaking at an agricultural conference in London the other day, stressed that capital commitments increased, the relations between fixed and farming tenants became more important.

Partnerships Suggested

A REVOLUTIONARY idea put forward by Mr. Verney with a view to supplying additional capital for farming schemes is that landlords and tenants might provide the money in partnership. For example, the letting of a £3,000 yard and parlour, with a grant of £1,000, might be

financed jointly by both parties, with each side writing off its investment over 10 years; or the landlord might provide all the capital in return for a share in the profits of part of the herd. Indeed, Mr. Verney thought that there was room for many variations in the present system, for livestock or crop sharing, or for cash tenancy, or for combinations of all three. What any system needed was the availability of capital at reasonably steady rates.

OCKHAM PARK ESTATE AUCTION

THE Ockham Park estate of 2,840 acres between Esher and Guildford, Surrey, is to be auctioned. The property, which, until her death, was owned by the Baroness Wentworth, consists of 11 dairy and mixed farms, varying in size from 39 acres to 317 acres and let to produce a total income of nearly £8,500 a year, and 450 acres of woodland. It will be offered as a whole or in five blocks ranging from 224 acres to 940 acres by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley. The principal house was destroyed by fire in 1948.

Following the death of Mrs. Ross Pember, widow of a London stockbroker, the Berkley House estate, near Frome, Somerset, is for sale on the instructions of her executors, and Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, who, with Messrs. Cooper and Tanner, have been entrusted with the property, say that an offer "in excess of £55,000" is being looked for for this agricultural and sporting property, which covers about 450 acres on the border of Wiltshire and Somerset, and which includes two farms, each with its own farmhouse, 12 cottages and 170 acres of woodland. Berkley House, which is a stone-built house standing in a timbered park facing the Wiltshire Downs and the White Horse on Westbury Hills, is of William and Mary origin.

WARWICKSHIRE ESTATE SOLD

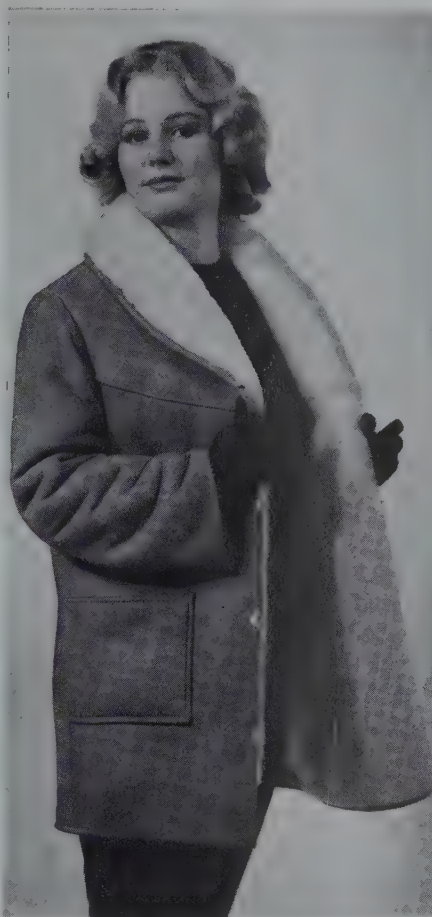
A SMALL estate on the border of Warwickshire and Gloucestershire that has changed hands is Foxcote, which extends to 254 acres at Ilmington, four miles from Shipston-on-Stour and the same distance from Chipping Camden. It includes a medium-sized Queen Anne house, a garage and stable block, a farmery with a T.T. attested cowhouse for 30, two service cottages and a flat. It was sold by Messrs. Jackson-Stops, of Cirencester, and Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, acting for W.-Cdr. R. C. Longsdon. The price is not disclosed; the particulars state that £45,000 was asked.

For the trustees of the late Lieut.-Col. L. C. R. Messel, Messrs. William Wood, Son and Gardner have sold Holmsted Manor, a large house standing in 28½ acres at Cuckfield, Sussex. Messrs. Rowland Gorrings and Co., who acted for the purchaser, state that the property is to be used as a preparatory school for boys.

CENTRE FOR GOURMETS

A NOTICE referring to the forthcoming sale of the Gatwick Manor Inn, which stands in 20 acres alongside the main London-Brighton road approximately midway between the capital and the coast, describes it as a centre for gourmets and a haunt of the late Gilbert Harding. The original foundations of Gatwick Manor were laid in the 13th century; the main restaurant is housed in a 16th-century tithe barn; and the modern kitchens are built by the side of a brick oven that once baked 200 loaves at a time over a wood fire. The inn is to be auctioned by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley for Mr. N. Hickmet.

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A WOMAN CLOSE TO
QUEEN VICTORIA

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

EDITED by Mary Lutyens is *Lady Lytton's Court Diary* (Hart-Davis, 30s.). Lady Lytton's husband had been Viceroy of India, she was a widow when, in 1895, Queen Victoria invited her to become lady-in-Waiting at £300 a year. The Queen was then 76 and Lady Lytton, Lady Lytton remained with the Queen until her death. Victoria was great one for trials and sorrows. In a letter to Lady Lytton she mentioned "the way in which you have borne your trials and sorrows" as one of the reasons for offering her the job. Most of the trials and sorrows was lack of cash. Even to a Viceroy's widow, £300 a year was an inducement, for there was a son being kept precariously at Eton. All the same, Lady Lytton did not jump at the offer. She wondered whether it might not be better if the post were offered to her daughter Emily. Emily scotched the idea by

slanting up from the door-step. Then the Indian servant supports the Queen the most, and so gently, and without any fear or nervousness, then there were cloaks, shawls, and frills offered by different hands."

On the occasion here written about, the party was off to take tea at the house of Donald Stewart, the head keeper. There were four greys drawing the carriage and two outriders on greys. But it must not be supposed that tea with the head keeper was a cottage affair *en famille*. A foot-note tells us that the keeper's house had been built by the Prince Consort. "A suite of rooms was set apart in it for the Queen's use, the tea-room being panelled in pine from the forest, and the Balmoral tartan used for upholstery." Here "Mustafa waited on us, so quickly and well."

This Mustafa was one of the Indians the Queen liked to have about

LADY LYTTON'S COURT DIARY. Edited by Mary Lutyens.

(Hart-Davis, 30s.)

A BURNT-OUT CASE. By Graham Greene.

(Heinemann, 16s.)

declaring herself a republican, and Lady Lytton became a lady-in-waiting.

Two years later republican Emily Lytton, a young architect named Edwin Lutyens and they became engaged to be married. Lady Lytton told the Queen about it, and in her diary words "but she only thought me selfish to rejoice, and does not care for girls marrying, I am told." Apparently, the Queen would have been rather pleased if the engagement had not been regarded as another trial and sorrow to be suitably lamented. What if she and Lady Lytton might have married! This is the only occasion I can find in the book on which the lady-in-waiting let her down.

However, Edwin married his republican girl and began his spectacular career of providing abodes for the Queen from republican clients and imperial palaces over which it seemed probable that a red flag would fly. Lady Lytton had children, and one of them was Mary Lutyens who now writes and presents to us the diary that her grandmother kept while at court. The reign of Victoria has been more thoroughly documented than most. The personality of the Queen made that inevitable. Lady Lytton's diary cannot be expected to tell us anything we don't already know. All it can do, excellently does, is throw a ray of light here and there to bring out a detail of the familiar picture.

Dauntless, Idiosyncratic

When she took up her duties as lady-in-waiting, Lady Lytton found an old woman, rapidly getting more and more blind, but dauntless and idiosyncratic as ever. She had always been accustomed to getting about in a carriage, and age and infirmity were going to stop her. "The process of getting her Majesty into the carriage is a most intricate, with a green baize plank

her. The most famous was "the Munshi," who enjoyed the kind of privileges once accorded to John Brown. Brown was now dead, but Victoria remembered him and attended the funeral of his nephew. The father, John Brown's brother, was there, and "kept himself up with whiskey and had to be supported by two at the ceremony, so Mrs. Brown was right that the Queen had better see him another day."

"Scott Sometimes Coarse"

Just as the Queen refused to allow lameness to get her down, so it was with her failing sight. When she attended Church the hymns were written out for her in large letters and she peered at these through double glasses. So far as reading books goes, it is to be doubted whether she ever did much of that. She told Lady Lytton that "she never read a novel till she married, and had been very careful what books her daughters read, and she thought even Scott was sometimes coarse." It is amusing to speculate on what would have happened had she been a member of the *Lady Chatterley* jury.

The case of "the Munshi," who succeeded John Brown, is interesting. He was much disliked at Court, but the Queen would hear no ill of him. Miss Lutyens quotes Mr. Pope-Hennessy as saying that when a member of the household protested against the Munshi's privileges "the Queen became so incensed that she swept all the objects off her writing-table on to the floor." How far she was consciously or unconsciously fighting against colour-prejudice we shall never know. Certainly she was touchy about any slight to Indians. In this book we are told how, during fighting on the North-West Frontier, she sent a telegram to the secretary of State for India saying: "Would wish

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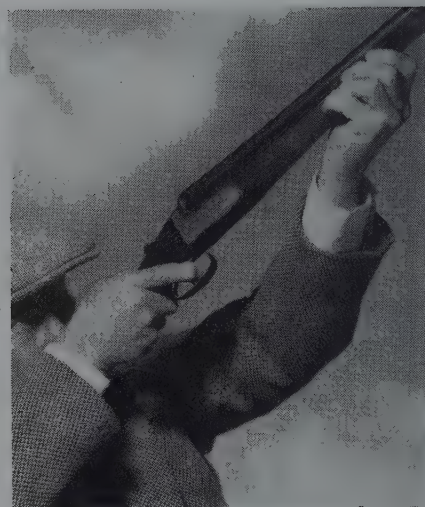
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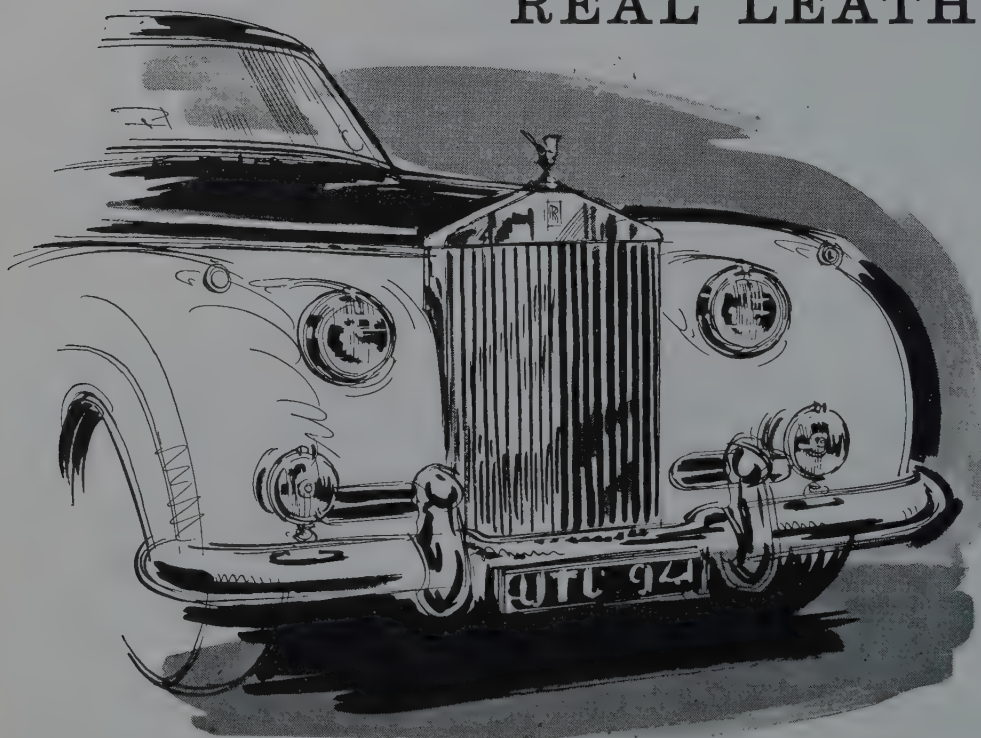
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REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—continued

how many Native officers and have been killed and wounded. The former are never mentioned, but the English, which I think very big." She was outspoken on the matter to Lord Salisbury, too. She was always outspoken. When in September, 1899, Dreyfus was condemned to years' detention by a court-martial, she sent a telegram, not in French, to the secretary of our Embassy in Paris: "Thanks for your telegram with the news of this monstrous verdict against this poor man."

Visit of the Tsar

The matter on which Lady Lytton was at greatest length is the visit to the Tsar in the autumn of 1896 of the Emperor of Russia and his German wife, who had been Princess Alix of Hesse—the ill-fated pair for whom destiny had read a dreadful end in store. Reading of any occasion now that this end has been consummated is saddening, and it is poignant to read Lady Lytton's account: "I am sure she is devoted to him. I wonder how long they will be married to each other, and happy." She describes the Emperor as "exactly like a skinny Duke of York—the image of him," and page after page gives details of those crowded days when the Emperor was so packed with people that even the ladies-in-waiting had to be boarded out and four laundresses were sleeping in one bed. "I think that ninety horses were used on the 22nd, the day of arrival, and the outfit of each carriage was perfect." There was only one discordant note, that was that even the presence of the Tsar was not enough to keep the Prince of Wales at Balmoral. He took time off to see his horse Pernon run (and win) at Newmarket. The Queen "told me she did not like the Prince of Wales racing . . . the Queen Consort was so against it." Lady Lytton adds cryptically: "It was the Prince happy, and is perhaps a better excitement than others." Lady Lytton was with the Queen at the end and was one of those who stood with the coffin from Osborne to London. She herself lived to be 95. In Lutyens built her a house to live in for her days in.

LIFE OF A LEPER

Mr. Graham Greene's *A Burnt-out Case* (Heinemann, 16s.) is as good a novel as any I have read by this author (though I have read by no means all). I find this one utterly fascinating in what it proposes to do in the way it is done. The setting is a leper hospital run by Roman Catholic priests and nuns on the banks of an African river—a place utterly dead-end. The nearest point that it reluctantly calls a town is reached only by difficult travel. In this life-of-beyond arrives Querry, who in his time has been world-famous as an architect. He had also been a great novelist. He feels he has reached the limit of what he can say by his pen and "love" is dust and ashes. His religious faith has gone. "I have no faith whatever in a god. No belief in soul, in eternity. I'm not even interested." He is a "burnt-out case." This is what the doctors call a leper who has been cured, but at a terrible price. It may have been necessary to cut off his hands and feet, but what remains is a living man who must now find what he can do of life. In a note introducing the book Mr. Greene quotes a pamphlet on leprosy. Concerning the burnt-out case, "though

with time he becomes reconciled to his deformities, it is only at the conscious level. His sub-conscious mind, which continues to bear the mark of injury, brings about certain changes in his whole personality, making him suspicious of society."

Suspicious of society, wanting only to be no one and do nothing, Querry drifts into the leper colony. His friendship with the atheist, Dr. Colin, who is doing splendid work, his growing sense of the horror and the needs of the situation, slowly awaken him. He designs a new hospital. He begins to busy himself. There comes this moment. "Querry said to Colin, 'You know I am happy here.' He closed his mouth on the phrase too late; it had escaped him on the sweet evening air like an admission."

An admission of what? That, in a sense, is the whole question. It may not, to some, seem much to build a novel on, but it is an immensity. Were some of the priests right when they argued that only a man who loved God deeply could be so acutely aware of the loss of him? Was Dr. Colin right when he said: "It's possible for an intelligent man to make his life without a god"?

Cured of Everything

Towards the end Querry says to Colin: "I think I'm cured of pretty well everything, even disgust. I've been happy here." Would that happiness have survived? Would it have developed into anything else? We shall never know. Between them, Rycker, the manager of a palm-oil factory, Rycker's love-hungry child-wife, and the gutter-journalist Parkinson make an end of him. They are three memorable characters, beautifully drawn. How their varying personalities combined to pull the net round Querry you must discover for yourself.

The background of the story is most satisfying. The sight and smell of the river, the weather, the pathetic pretence of the little town called Luc, the darkness of the forest: it is all drawn in with masterly economy and masterly precision.

RUGBY THE RIGHT WAY

MANY British rugby enthusiasts, having observed the methods employed by the triumphant South African touring side, will say that the Springboks would do well to make a more careful study of the requirements of a rugby team before setting out on their next tour. However, it is probably fair to say at least that the Springboks have a sounder basic knowledge of the game than most of their opponents here. It is a knowledge that they have accumulated steadily since their schooldays in a country where rugby is supreme in winter sport.

So, as a step to improve the British standard, we can welcome Cedric Venables's book *Instructions to Young Rugger Players* (Museum Press, 12s. 6d.), which can do much to help boys in their early days in the game. Few can be more competent than Mr. Venables, who is widely known as an expert on schools rugby, to explain to a young audience the requirements of a young player. His book is never dull, as he deals with the general and individual make-up of a team, and there are also chapters on seven-a-side rugby and on schools and their fixtures. It is, in fact, a book that all schoolboys who intend to make rugby their sport would do well to read. B. H.

A Queen all the world acknowledges

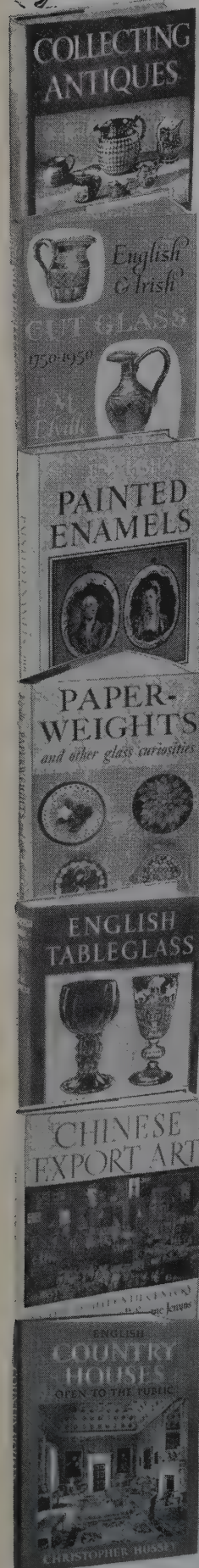


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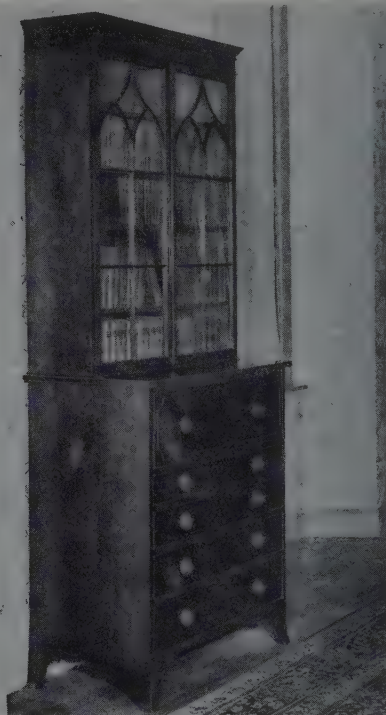
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MATERIAL ISSUES



new Liberty silks, taken from designs that were introduced to London by dresses by Paul Poiret and by Bakst's designs for the Russian ballet. Among flights of brilliant poppies, or black-outlined chinoiserie, Poiret's roses make a welcome re-appearance

AN American writer took the title for her book about fashion, *Fashion is Spinach*, from a Thurber cartoon in which a young girl tells her child to "Eat up your broccoli," and the child answers: "I say it's spinach to hell with it."

For anyone who feels like this and who is a dedicated devotee of fashion, buying clothes this coming season will be pleasurable (because they are often lovely) but fraught with perils that lie in a new vocabulary. This vocabulary does not concern line, which is being simplified, but materials. "Every new one has construction interest," says one of the most knowledgeable women in this field, and it's true. You will need to brush up your architectural terms this spring.

I suppose it is reasonable to suppose that the basic line becomes simpler the fabrics used to construct the line should become more important. And this is what is happening in a subtle way. There is, although I would not suggest that there is an arty-crafty look in any of these new materials, a very definite well-loomed look—expensive, subtle and quietly opulent. This, in wools, is achieved by weaving together threads of varying thicknesses, mixing a wool thread with a thinner silk (one takes the dye, the other doesn't), by using slubbed, or knopped, threads or by dyeing them then re-dyeing to give a cloth woven from

threads of different thicknesses an all-over look of rich, glowing colour. Fabrics like these are three-dimensional in effect and architectural in their brick-by-brick, thread-by-thread building.

Colours are, on the whole, quietly opulent—if it is possible to be opulent in an off-beat way—but set off by an occasional flash of brilliant lacquer-red, rose or Spanish pink. Amber has been chosen by the associate members of the Incorporated Society of London Fashion Designers (makers of buttons, belts, handbags, materials, furs and jewellery) as their colour, but a general survey, based, in part, on what the couturiers seem to be most interested in, indicates that blues and blue-greens may come up in the collections.

The international collections have not begun, as I write, so it is impossible to say just what materials will be used, and by which designers, in the final showdown, but it is certain that British fabric designers will be more than honourably represented in this spring's couture collections in London, Florence and Paris.

Each designer has his own signature, unmistakable to many, acceptable to most. We are certain to see much of Miki Sekers's crisp, light and infinitely cunning mixtures of wool and silk, or silk and mohair, basic and beautiful and always pounced on by couturiers who want



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(Left) A group of wools from the Dumas and Maury collection that illustrates the importance of the constructed look in the new materials, obtained by cunning variants in colours and textures.
(Above) New combinations of colour and a new feeling in design in Ascher's latest collection

to create the ideal dress in some material that cannot overpower the line.

Dumas and Maury are showing a superb collection (and one that is also available to retail customers), with emphasis on what Mrs. Vera Kay describes as "subtle, clever and intricate construction." Colours are definitely off-beat. Amber here has a muted glow and is supplemented by Squash, a subdued soft yellow with a greyish undertone, Dense Forest, a very

deep, dark, pine green, Prune and one bright emerald and Stark Green (one of the Dumas and Maury "shock treatment" colours). There are no shaggy dog materials, no bold plaids, but instead subtle colour nuances (emerald, cherry, bright rose-pink merge in one hopsack weave) and small, dark, muted checks. A new crispness (indicating, perhaps, less dressmaking and more tailoring in spring suits, if not now, then the spring after this) is creeping in and great attention is paid to weights. A wool and silk mixture cloth (54 ins. wide) weighs ten ounces; a wonderfully light, crisp-handling worsted weighs eight ounces, each one yard by 54 ins. of

it. "It makes me so angry when people say 'It must be imported'," said Mrs. Kay, "sets no limit to the British weaver's skill."

The architectural theme, carefully planned thread by thread, is marked in the new Cavanagh collection. These pure wool tweeds are amazingly subtle and often woven in one colour or at most in a combination of a colour and white. Threads of varying weights and textures give the plotted, textured look. Cavanagh has chosen an enchanter in a lozenge-like weave, which mixes pale pink and white and bears as much relation to what we have for too long considered a traditional daisy as does a daisy to a stalk of statice.

Ascher's collection at this moment, I imagine, is making up most of the bookings between here and Paris) certainly merits the name called opulent and walks into the architectural world with wools (two colours and topaz, grey and corn blue and grey) that are described as "roughcast"; silks are amazingly lovely, although there can be no more annoying to a designer than to find his own design pinpointed as being derived or inspired, by something I can only say that some silks and crisp silk creases suggest Persian tiles in and in glowing colour; trellis pattern, plumed flowers and grasses, remind me of some of Rex Whistling's illustrations; and the collection as a whole, in its weaves and in colour, is the exciting, strange exploration of quality that the Victorians must have found in the exotic tributes brought to the Great Exhibition.

The new Liberty is also winging their way to Paris and Italy as I write, tremendously different from the move on from last year's revival of William Morris to his school to the much more exotic world of Bakst and Paul Poiret. The designs are very often repeated on fabrics of different weights, as found on foulard-type chiffons, changing as they do with each as they do with different colour combinations are used.

BETTY WILSON



Wools from the Ascher collection, including rough-cast weaves and new checks as well as an open, crochet-like wool, overprinted with a single colour on white

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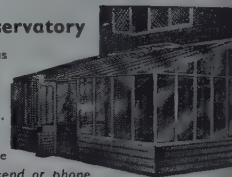
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